FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Daily Report

# East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-083
Wednesday
29 April 1992

# Daily Report
## East Asia

*FBIS-EAS-92-083* *29 April 1992*

CONTENTS

**NOTICE TO READERS**: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.


## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Environmental Conference Continues Discussions ..... 1
Mahathir Criticizes Developed Nations *[Kuala Lumpur Radio]* ..... 1
Mahathir Urged To Attend Rio Summit *[BERNAMA]* ..... 1
France Supports Demands on Funding *[AFP]* ..... 1
Conference Adopts Kuala Lumpur Declaration *[BERNAMA]* ..... 2
Details of Declaration Noted *[BERNAMA]* ..... 2
Nonaligned Members Urged To Avoid Squabbles *[Jakarta Radio]* ..... 3

## NORTHEAST ASIA

### Japan

Further on LDP-DSP SDF Dispatch Controversy *[KYODO]* ..... 4
Officials Depart for Foreign Visits, Meetings ..... 4
Watanuki Heads for Eastern Europe *[KYODO]* ..... 4
Watanabe Leaves for U.S., Europe *[KYODO]* ..... 4
Ozawa Leaves for Indonesia *[KYODO]* ..... 4

### North Korea

Delegations Arrive To Discuss Free Trade Zone *[KCNA]* ..... 5
Kim Chong-il's Efforts To Modernize Army Lauded *[KCNA]* ..... 5
Choe Kwang Address on KPA Anniversary *[Pyongyang Radio]* ..... 5

### South Korea

First-Quarter Deficit With U.S. at $965 Million *[YONHAP]* ..... 11
Bonn, Seoul To Set Up APEC-EC Dialogue *[YONHAP]* ..... 11
Ministry To Continue 'Tight' Money Policy *[YONHAP]* ..... 12
DPRK Business Practices Causing Trade Problems *[HANGUK ILBO 26 Apr]* ..... 12
Daewoo To Open Joint Ventures in Vietnam, Spain *[YONHAP]* ..... 13
Indonesian Official Arrives To Sign for Loan *[YONHAP]* ..... 13
Minister Proposes New Environmental Issues Office *[YONHAP]* ..... 13
Australian Environment Minister Arrives for Talks *[YONHAP]* ..... 13
*Kim Chong-il Conflict With Army Leaders Examined *[PUKHAN Mar]* ..... 14

## SOUTHEAST ASIA

### Burma

Commander Says Offensive Against Karens Suspended *[Rangoon Radio]* ..... 19
Ne Win Called Mastermind *[AFP]* ..... 19
Parallel Government To Hold Emergency Meeting *[AFP]* ..... 20
Eight More Political Prisoners Freed *[Rangoon Radio]* ..... 20
Rail Equipment To Be Purchased From PRC *[Rangoon Radio]* ..... 20

**Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore**

**Malaysia**

Commentary Hails Support for Green Environment *[Kuala Lumpur International]* ..... 21
Mahathir To Attend Rio Earth Summit *[BERNAMA]* ..... 21
Naval Dockyard To Meet Foreign Requirements *[BERNAMA]* ..... 21

**Singapore**

Agreement on Joint Waste Control With Indonesia *[THE STRAITS TIMES 22 Apr]* ..... 22
Protest Lodged to Malaysia Over Boat Intrusions *[THE STRAITS TIMES 25 Apr]* ..... 22

**Cambodia**

Ranariddh Remark at 20 Apr SNC Meeting Cited *[Radio VGNUFC]* ..... 23
Factions' Refusal To Show Minefields Viewed *[SPK]* ..... 23
Kompong Thom Prepares for 500 Families' Return *[SPK]* ..... 24

**Indonesia**

Dutch Trade Minister Welcomes 'New Era' Ties *[Jakarta Radio]* ..... 24
Dailies View Ties, Aid Ban *[Jakarta Radio]* ..... 24
Government Urged To Open Court for Dili Incident *[THE JAKARTA POST 13 Apr]* ..... 24
Commission Presents Final Report *[THE JAKARTA POST 14 Apr]* ..... 25

**Laos**

President Interviewed on Opinion of DPRK Visit *[KCNA]* ..... 25
Thongsing Thammavong Leaves for Thailand 28 Apr *[Vientiane Radio]* ..... 26

**Philippines**

Advance Naval Contingent To Leave for Cambodia *[BUSINESS WORLD 29 Apr]* ..... 26
Multinational Firms Establish Venture Fund *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 28 Apr]* ..... 27
Book Details Kickbacks for Japanese Aid *[KYODO]* ..... 27
Malacanang To Abolish Import Levy by 1 May *[THE CHRONICLE 27 Apr]* ..... 28
Cardinal Sin Views Candidate Selection Criteria *[BUSINESS WORLD 29 Apr]* ..... 28
Government To File New Charges Against Cojuangco *[Manila Radio]* ..... 29
Army Chief Refuses To Sign Peace Covenant *[Quezon City Radio]* ..... 29
Police Mobilize To Neutralize Communist Rebels *[MANILA BULLETIN 29 Apr]* ..... 29
Crackdown on Suspected Military Coup Supporters
*[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 29 Apr]* ..... 30
Elections Body Cancels Local Poll Postponements *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 29 Apr]* ..... 30
Air Base Security 'Strict' After Dynamite Found *[BUSINESS WORLD 29 Apr]* ..... 31

**Thailand**

Deputy Minister on U.S. Trade Retaliation *[Bangkok Radio]* ..... 32
Sombat, SRV's Le Mai Discuss Mekong Committee *[Radio VOFA]* ..... 32
Diplomatic Relations Established With Estonia *[Radio VOFA]* ..... 32
Regime Vows To Continue Economic Liberalization *[THE NATION 29 Apr]* ..... 32
Minister Stresses Freer Trade *[THE NATION 29 Apr]* ..... 33
Suchinda on Vote Buying, Narong Appointment *[Bangkok TV]* ..... 33
Commerce Minister Considering Policy Changes *[BANGKOK POST 27 Apr]* ..... 34
Journalists Urge Commitment To Press Freedom *[THE NATION 25 Apr]* ..... 34
Daily Warns Against Economy Without Democracy *[THE NATION 24 Apr]* ..... 35
Investment Situation Likely To Recover Soon *[Radio VOFA]* ..... 36

### Vietnam

Italy To Provide 85 Million U.S. Dollars in Aid *[VNA]* ..... 37
Envoy Celebrates 60th Anniversary of DPRK Army *[VNA]* ..... 37
Scientific Cooperation Brings 'Good Results' *[VNA]* ..... 37
Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew Ends Visit 27 Apr *[VNA]* ..... 37
Commentary Welcomes Visit by Lee Kuan Yew *[Hanoi International]* ..... 37
Radio Views Cooperation With Netherlands *[Hanoi International]* ..... 38
Singapore, Malaysia Seen As Largest Investors *[Bangkok THE NATION 21 Apr]* ..... 38
Kiet Receives Australian Government Delegation *[Hanoi Radio]* ..... 39
Commentary Views Relations With Japan *[Hanoi International]* ..... 40
Paper Cites Minister on Mekong Committee Wrangle *[Bangkok THE NATION 27 Apr]* ..... 40
Foreign Companies Join in Quang Trung Fair *[VNA]* ..... 41
Nguyen Van Linh Attends HCM City Get-Together *[Hanoi Radio]* ..... 41
Council of Ministers Discusses Economic Issues *[VNA]* ..... 41
Hanoi on Security, Other Tasks for 1992-95 *[Hanoi Radio]* ..... 41
Consular Bureau To Assist Citizens, Foreigners *[VNA]* ..... 42
Government Issuing Gold-Backed Bonds *[Hanoi International]* ..... 42
Feature Rejects Need for Political Reform *[Hanoi International]* ..... 42

## AUSTRALASIA

### Australia

PRC Protest of Dalai Lama Meeting Rejected *[AFP]* ..... 43

## Environmental Conference Continues Discussions

### Mahathir Criticizes Developed Nations

*BK2704141592 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] Earlier, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said in his speech the forthcoming Earth Summit will become an exercise in futility if the rich nations of the North expected poor developing countries to foot the bill for a cleaner world environment.

Despite two years of preparations for the United Nations conference on environment and development meeting, major issues and problems, particularly financial aspects, remained unresolved.

He said the South was very disappointed that the North was unwilling to respond with tangible commitments. Developed countries should earnestly prove they are committed to implementing sustainable development to convince the developing nations into attending the earth summit.

The prime minister said their commitment was a prerequisite if the summit were to draw up a workable environmental protection program. Malaysia would decide whether or not to attend the Earth Summit after studying the outcome of the three-day conference in Kuala Lumpur.

### Mahathir Urged To Attend Rio Summit

*BK2904102292 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0743 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 29 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Delegates and observers to the second ministerial conference of developing countries on environment and development which ended Wednesday reiterated that Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir should attend the Earth Summit in Rio.

Chairman of the three-day conference Law Hieng Ding told a press conference at the end of the meeting that Dr. Mahathir would discuss the Kuala Lumpur Declaration, which was adopted last night, at the weekly cabinet meeting today.

Law said if Dr. Mahathir decided to attend the Rio summit in June, Malaysia would present the video documentary entitled "An Initiative for the Greening of the World" in Brazil. The documentary was shown for the first time at the opening of the KL [Kuala Lumpur] meeting on Monday.

The 18-minute show exhorted the world to maintain the world's greenery for present and future generations.

One of the cochairmen of the conference, Dr. Ahmud Swaley Kasenally, Mauritius minister of environment quality, who also attended the press conference, said Dr. Mahathir should attend the Rio summit.

"The Malaysian prime minister should lead the South countries and Dr. Mahathir himself should bring the Kuala Lumpur Declaration to Rio," he added.

Deputy Director of Planning Division at the Japanese Environment Agency, Ryutaro Yatsu, said the Malaysian Government should take a leading role to get a global consensus on environment and development in Rio.

He said: "The efforts and commitment made by Malaysia at the KL meeting which had made significant progress made it imperative that the prime minister lead the developing countries at the summit."

### France Supports Demands on Funding

*BK2804122692 Hong Kong AFP in English 1219 GMT 28 Apr 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 28 (AFP)—France said Tuesday it was backing demands by developing countries for greater autonomy in the operations of a massive fund to finance environmental projects.

Philippe Lecourtier, special French envoy to a meeting of environment ministers from 54 developing countries here, said that Paris felt, however, that the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) set up three years ago should remain attached to the World Bank.

The GEF is seen as a key instrument for funding programs under a so-called "Agenda 21" expected to be approved at June's Earth Summit in Rio de Janerio, Brazil.

Many developing countries, including some represented here, are demanding the establishment of a separate fund outside the control of the World Bank, which they say is controlled by contributors among the rich industrial nations.

"France wants the GEF to remain linked to the World Bank, but it should be able to take its own decisions," Lecourtier, who is attending the meeting here as an observer, told newsmen.

He said that the GEF should have its own chairman and mechanism to ensure its autonomy particularly for financing projects under conventions signed at Rio.

The summit is expected to give formal approval to two conventions on biodiversity and climate change.

Lecourtier said that World Bank could, however, retain control over environmentally sustainable development projects initiated by it.

The developing countries are seeking some 70 billion dollars in new and additional financial resources from the rich countries to finance projects under the GEF.

The environment ministers Tuesday rejected a proposal by Brazil to send a "strong message" to a meeting of finance ministers in Washington outlining their views on how the GEF should operate.

"We feel that the Kuala Lumpur Declaration will clearly spell out our position on the GEF and that a separate message is unnecessary," a senior Malaysian official said.

Lecourtier said that France would meet a commitment made by developed nations to raise their Official Development Assistance (ODA) to 0.7 percent of Gross National Product (GNP) by the year 2000.

France's ODA now exceeds 0.6 percent of GNP compared to an average 0.32 percent for all developed countries.

Officials of developing countries say that by raising ODA to 0.7 percent, the rich countries would double the flow of ODA to developing countries to some 110 billion dollars.

## Conference Adopts Kuala Lumpur Declaration

*BK2904044292 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0337 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 29 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Fifty-four South countries meeting here this evening adopted the Kuala Lumpur Declaration outlining their common stand on ways to save planet Earth from global pollution and degradation at the June Earth Summit in Brazil.

Malaysian Science, Technology, and Environment Minister Law Hieng Ding, who is chairman of the second ministerial conference of developing countries on environment and development, announced this at a press conference last night.

Before Law's announcement, there was uncertainty whether the draft declaration would be adopted following a proposal to send a message to finance ministers of the G-7 (developed nations) and World Bank officials now meeting in Washington to discuss the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The GEF, managed by the World Bank, is for the funding of development projects to the South countries without harming the environment.

The proposal by Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela was tabled during the plenary session at the second day of the conference this morning.

Their proposal was to send a specific message to Washington on the question of financial resources.

Law told the press conference that the declaration was adopted with very minor amendments to some wordings.

Acknowledging that the declaration was scheduled only for adoption Wednesday, Law said it was adopted today to fulfil the wishes of a majority of the delegates.

He said its adoption on Tuesday showed that the conference was very successful and decisions taken were unanimous.

The conference closing ceremony will proceed as scheduled Wednesday morning, said Law.

Replying to questions, Law said the conference decided against sending the separate message to Washington on the question of financial resources as suggested by the four Latin American countries.

Law said the majority of the delegates saw no need for such a move since the declaration had covered all areas including the question of financial resources.

"Since we are going to adopt the Kuala Lumpur Declaration soon, so the majority of us don't see the necessity to send such message.

"As you know now the declaration is ready, so we can fax the whole copy," he said.

Copies of the declaration could be sent to interested parties, he said.

Law explained that the decision to adopt the declaration today had nothing to do with the Washington meeting.

Malaysia's permanent representative to the United Nations, Razali Ismail, who was present at the press conference, said the declaration would be forwarded the Group of 77 (G-77) for its endorsement.

The group had decided in New York recently that any outcome of the Kuala Lumpur conference should be taken back to the G-77 and used as a comprehensive basis for preparation for the summit in Rio de Janeiro.

The working groups of G-77 would meet early next month to discuss the Kuala Lumpur Declaration before presenting their views to a meeting of G-77 ambassadors and representatives on May 12, he said.

The declaration would also be made available as a United Nations document, he said.

"I imagine when we get to Rio, somebody would formally present this (the declaration)," he said.

Razali, who chaired the pre-conference senior officials meeting, said he would explain to the G-77 details of the declaration to enable the group to discuss its strategies for the summit, he said.

"Of course, there will be other efforts, but this Kuala Lumpur meeting has been seen by G-77 as an important station on the way towards preparing for Rio," he added.

## Details of Declaration Noted

*BK2904045692 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0349 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 29 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Developing nations of the world are to demand from the developed countries that they be accorded the right to development in a new world economic environment, if

they are to be effective partners in the global drive to clean up the world when they meet for the Earth Summit in Brazil.

The demands are contained in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration (KLD) issued by the economic ministers and heads of delegations of 54 developing countries, which met here for three days to fine-tune their stand on a number of issues they deemed as keys to the success of the summit in June.

More than 30 environment ministers from developing countries attended the three-day conference which was keynoted by Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed on Monday.

The KLD serves notice to the rich nations that they do not see global environmental woes and their resolution per se, when they meet for the summit in Rio de Janeiro. Neither do they want the rich nations to curtail their developmental process under the guise of cleaning up the earth for present and future generations.

"We call for a new global partnership based on respect for sovereignty and the principles of equity and equality among [words indistinct] for the achievement of sustainable development, taking into account the main responsibility of developed countries for the deterioration of the environment, and the need for sustained economic growth and development of developing countries," said the KLD.

The declaration said development was a fundamental right of all peoples and countries, and an environmentally sound planet should correspond to "a socially and economically just world."

Central to the success of Rio, it underlined, was environmentally sound development, and the creation of a supportive international economic environment to achieve this objective.

The supportive economic environment included the "transfer of new and additional financial resources to developing countries, through distinct and specific mechanisms which are transparent, accountable and with equal representation in decision-making, and modalities for transfer of technology."

Recognising the need for far-reaching reforms in the international trade for the success of Rio, the 12-page KLD also called on the developed nations to ensure, without delay, a balanced, meaningful and satisfactory conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

"We further emphasize that developed countries should not attempt to impose unilateral restrictions on international trade, in particular, on natural resource-based and other related products on environmental grounds."

To help developing countries implement development programmes without harming the environment, the KLD said there was a need for the urgent conclusion and implementation of internationally supported measures to enhance and stabilise commodity prices, including commodity diversification, processing and development.

"We reiterate that for the new global partnership to be meaningful, developing countries must have the resources to participate effectively. We also underline the urgent need to eradicate poverty and to guarantee sustained growth in both economic and environmental terms."

The KLD [word indistinct] question of sustainable development (that is development without harming the environment) made it incumbent on the developed nations to take major steps to transform their production, consumption, and distribution patterns towards environmentally sound development.

"For the developing countries, sustainable development implies the right to development with due regard to the ecological processes. In order for the developing countries to achieve sustainable development, developed countries should adhere to a new concept of global partnership."

## Nonaligned Members Urged To Avoid Squabbles

*BK2804092092 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 28 Apr 92*

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has called on member countries of the Nonaligned Movement to avoid criticizing and interfering in each other's domestic and foreign affairs. The Nonaligned Movement members should focus their attention on major issues related directly to their common interests so as to maintain the unity and direction of the movement. Besides, the Nonaligned Movement must have courage and flexibility in approaching other countries so as to cope with new challenges and problems in the current world situation.

The foreign minister made these remarks at a seminar in Jakarta yesterday on the struggle of the Nonaligned Movement to create a new world order. Alatas said without sacrificing the purity and basic principles by pursuing an independent and active policy, the Nonaligned Movement should adopt a more open, cooperative, nonconfrontative, and nondogmatic approach. To achieve its basic objectives in an ever-changing situation, the Nonaligned Movement must understand its priorities, which are in line with the new situation and its members' interests.

## Japan

### Further on LDP-DSP SDF Dispatch Controversy

*OW2904051892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0507 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—The governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) may conditionally accept a Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) demand that any overseas deployment of Japanese peacekeeping forces be subject to prior parliamentary approval, a major daily said Wednesday.

The YOMIURI SHIMBUN, quoting an anonymous senior LDP official, said the party will accept the DSP demand in exchange for a time limit on future Diet deliberations on whether or not to approve overseas dispatches of Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF).

After a specific time limit, such as one month, the Diet would have to call a vote, the daily said.

The debate limitation would block opposition parties from using the debates as a means of delaying the dispatch of SDF troops until after the ceasefire period in a war-torn country, the daily quoted LDP sources as saying.

The House of Councillors started deliberations Tuesday on the government-proposed bill, which would empower Japan to send SDF personnel to join UN peacekeeping operations.

The House of Representatives passed the bill in early December with the support of the LDP and the second-largest opposition Komeito.

The Social Democratic Party and the Japanese Communist Party have been trying to kill the bill, while the DSP has been trying to place parliamentary control on any dispatch of the SDF for UN peacekeeping operations.

The LDP, with 114 seats in the 252-seat opposition-controlled upper house, cannot pass the bill single-handedly.

It has been trying to woo Komeito with its 20 seats and the DSP with its 10 seats, into supporting the LDP drive to pass the bill.

Komeito has remained skeptical on the new LDP proposal, saying it has failed to present clear-cut answers to the issues of standards for parliamentary approval and how to deal with UN requests to send peacekeeping troops when the Diet is in recess.

The upper chamber is to resume deliberations on the bill next Thursday when legislators return to the chamber after a break for a series of annual Japanese holidays known as Golden Week.

## Officials Depart for Foreign Visits, Meetings

### Watanuki Heads for Eastern Europe

*OW2904050192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0424 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—Ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Secretary General Tamisuke Watanuki left Tokyo on Wednesday for a weeklong [word indistinct], Bulgaria and Austria.

Watanuki is scheduled to meet Polish President Lech Walesa and Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev.

Accompanying Watanuki are LDP Deputy Secretary Generals Junichiro Koizumi and Hiroshi Kumagai, both of whom are House of Representatives legislators, officials said.

Defense Agency Director General Sohei Miyashita left Wednesday for Britain and Hungary for talks with his British and Hungarian counterparts, Malcom Rifkind and Lajos Fur.

Miyashita also will also visit the headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Brussels.

### Watanabe Leaves for U.S., Europe

*OW2904050392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0455 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe left for Washington on Wednesday on a 12-day tour of the United States, Canada, Britain, and Germany for talks with top-ranking officials of those countries.

Watanabe will meet U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, his Canadian counterpart Michael Wilson, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, his British counterpart Michael Heseltine, British Prime Minister John Major, and other officials, according to ministry officials.

On the last leg of his trip, Watanabe will attend a May 8-9 meeting in Munster, Germany, of economic and trade ministers from major industrial nations to discuss ways of supporting the moribund economy of the former Soviet republics.

Watanabe is scheduled to return home May 10.

Economic Planning Agency Director General Takeshi Noda also left for Washington for a meeting with the U.S. Presidential Council of Economic Advisers (CEA). He will return home May 4.

### Ozawa Leaves for Indonesia

*OW2904041292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0403 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—Ichiro Ozawa, former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, left

Tokyo for Indonesia on Wednesday for a 10-day visit for talks with President Suharto and other Indonesian leaders.

Ozawa will return to Japan on Thursday next week.

## North Korea

### Delegations Arrive To Discuss Free Trade Zone

*SK2904055692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA) - Delegations of Japan, the United States, China and South Korea arrived here to participate in the Pyongyang international meeting, the main agenda of which is the introduction of the conditions of the ports, railways and roads in the northern area of the DPRK and their prospect and the free economic and trade zone of Najin and Sonbong.

Officials concerned greeted the delegations.

### Kim Chong-il's Efforts To Modernize Army Lauded

*SK2804153492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 28 Apr 92*

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—The grand military parade celebrating the 60th founding anniversary of the heroic Korean People's Army here on April 25 has set off a storm of sensation among people of all walks of life.

Yi Chang-ok, chief secretary of the Central District, Pyongyang Municipality, Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, said:

The military parade held this time was a proud spectacular demonstration of the great singlehearted unity of the leader, the party and the Army, the source of might by which the revolutionary cause of chuche started long ago in the thick forest of Mt. Paektu has been firmly defended and advanced victoriously. It is the biggest honor and pride of our party and people to have the revolutionary army united around the party in one mind, guided by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of our revolutionary armed forces.

Choe Man-hyon, minister of metal industry, said:

The grand current of a-match-for-a-hundred army ranks that deeply moved people—this is the might of our chuche-based industry and might of our chuche-oriented national defence industry which have been consolidated under the leadership of the party.

Our revolutionary armed forces owe its dignified appearance to the energetic guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army.

Having a deep insight into the lawful requirement for the building of revolutionary armed forces and trend of modern war, the respected supreme commander has pushed ahead with the work to improve arms equipment on the basis of the latest military science and technology and has reared the People's Army to be steel-like ranks, matchless ranks and ever-victorious, a-match-for-a-hundred ranks, grasping all fields of national defence.

Kim Ul-ok, a woman residing in Tongmun-tong no.1, Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, said:

Seeing the masculine and sturdy soldiers, I felt strong with the belief that no enemy can dare pounce on us.

### Choe Kwang Address on KPA Anniversary

*SK2804233792 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0728 GMT 24 Apr 92*

["Report" by Vice Marshal Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, vice-chairman of the National Defense Commission, member of the party Central Military Commission, and chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, KPA, at a meeting celebrating the KPA's 60th anniversary in Pyongyang—live]

[Text] Comrades, today all the people across the country are more vigorously accelerating the grand socialist march by cherishing great joy and deep emotion after having celebrated the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song's 80th birthday—the greatest national holiday—most significantly and splendidly. With such joy and emotion, we are significantly marking the 60th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army [KPA], our party's revolutionary armed forces.

It is the highest glory and the greatest happiness of our people and People's Army to commemorate the 60th founding anniversary of the KPA in the presence of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song, who founded our revolutionary armed forces, weathering all trials and hardships in the arduous period at the dawn of our revolution and creating an imperishable history of building armed forces by leading our People's Army along an ever-victorious road in the long period of 60 years. [applause]

On the significant day of the KPA's founding anniversary, under the authorization of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and in the name of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and the party Central Military Commission, I warmly congratulate the officers and men of the courageous People's Army and the People's Security Forces. [applause]

I also express a lofty sense of reverence to the anti-Japanese patriotic martyrs and patriots of the People's Army who dedicated their precious lives to the nation's independence, to the people's freedom and liberation, to the party, and to the revolution. [applause]

I extend warm congratulations to old anti-Japanese fighters, old warriors of the Fatherland Liberation War,

disabled veterans, and discharged soldiers who devotedly struggled for our fatherland's liberation, for the party, and for the revolution. [applause]

I send warm greetings to all the people who are struggling for victory of the socialist cause and national reunification in firm unity with the party and the leader and who love and sincerely help the People's Army just as their own blood relatives. [applause]

Comrades, the KPA is our party's glorious revolutionary armed forces with a long history and brilliant revolutionary tradition. Our party's revolutionary armed forces, which became the genuine army for the people for the first time in history, were formed in the early stages of the 1930's amid the flames of our people's sacred anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, and took the first step in the militant course, which was full of glory.

For the past 60 years since its founding, the KPA has brilliantly embroidered history with heroic struggle and exploits under the wise leadership of the party and the leader by highly upholding the banner of the chuche idea. The KPA victoriously pioneered, firmly defended, and protected the socialist cause, our people's revolutionary cause. [applause]

The socialist cause—the popular masses' cause for independence—is to be carried out amid fierce confrontation and struggle against the imperialists and various reactionaries. This cause can be successfully carried out only under armed guarantee by the revolutionary armed forces.

The nations and people who do not possess their own mighty revolutionary armed forces cannot defend their fatherland and revolution from the imperialists' aggression nor can they victoriously advance the socialist cause.

The cause of building revolutionary armed forces in our country was pioneered by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song for the first time and has been constantly deepened and developed together with the victorious advance of the chuche revolutionary cause under the leadership of the party and the leader. [applause]

Based on his deep insight into the historic lessons of the anti-Japanese struggle for national liberation in our country and into the demands for our revolution's development when he was pioneering the road of the Korean revolution under the banner of the chuche idea, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song advanced the line and policy for founding our people's genuine revolutionary armed forces to organize and carry out the armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists.

The policy for waging an organized armed struggle with regular revolutionary armed forces made by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was a chuche-oriented policy for the Korean people to carry out the Korean revolution by themselves with their own strength and taking full responsibility for it. This policy was a unique policy which opened a new road for the war of national liberation from colonial rule and for building the revolutionary armed forces. [applause]

In the course of energetic struggle to implement the policy of building the revolutionary armed forces, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song personally provided a firm political and military foundation. Based on this, he finally formed the Korean People's Revolutionary Army [KPRA] on 25 April 1932, proclaiming to the whole world the founding of our revolutionary armed forces. [applause]

The founding of the KPRA was a majestic birth of the genuine chuche-type revolutionary armed forces in our country and was a historic event which opened an epoch-making turning point in our people's anti-Japanese struggle for national liberation and in the overall development of the Korean revolution. [applause]

With the founding of the KPRA, our people came into possession of a genuine revolutionary army in their long history and became able to victoriously fulfill the cause of national liberation on a higher stage, and the glorious history of our revolutionary armed forces began at that time.

Our revolutionary armed forces, with the first gun report resounding in the Paektu forest, traversed along a proud, victorious road for the last 60 years by going through the flames of arduous and rigorous struggle. With their heroic struggle, our revolutionary armed forces made immortal achievements brilliant forever in the nation's history. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The immortal services to the country and its people rendered by the KPRA and the People's Army, its direct successor, will shine long in the glorious history of the revolutionary struggle of our party and people.

From the first day of its founding, the KPRA, the first rank of our revolutionary armed forces, had to wage a bloody struggle against the strong imperialist enemy, who was thoroughly well armed. During the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary war, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song victoriously organized and led all operations and combat by resolving in a unique way difficult and complex problems in carrying out the armed struggle and overall Korean revolution. This course was a process in which the chuche-oriented cause of building the army was more solidly consolidated organizationally, ideologically, militarily and technologically, and it has been consistently pushed ahead. [applause]

Under the outstanding political and military leadership of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, an ever-victorious iron-willed general and great military strategist, members of the KPRA fully demonstrated the militant power of the revolutionary army everywhere by using the chuche-type guerrilla tactics and finally crushed the Japanese imperialist aggressors by waging a courageous struggle for over 15 years. Thus, the KPRA brilliantly achieved the historic cause of national liberation. [applause]

In the course of the anti-Japanese struggle, the pivotal backbone of our revolutionary armed forces was trained; the soldiers' spirit of being a genuine revolutionary army, mass heroism, chuche-based tactics, and the art of command were cultivated; the overall foundation of the building of revolutionary armed forces was solidly built; and the glorious revolutionary traditions of our party were established by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause]

This is the deep and sturdy historical roots of our party and army and the eternal bedrock of our revolution. [applause]

That the people of a popular nation crushed under strong, powerful imperialist aggressors attained their nation's independence with their own strength and with weapons in their hands is an immortal achievement of our revolutionary armed forces for the nation and for the era. Because our People's Army has such a heroic epic history of struggle and brilliant revolutionary traditions, it has an incomparably lofty pride and glory. [applause]

The KPRA was strengthened and developed into the KPA, regular armed forces, after liberation on the basis of the precious tradition of the building of revolutionary armed forces established in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, lifting the cause of building the army of chuche to a higher stage.

With the building of the modern regular armed forces with all arms and services soon after the liberation under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, our country could demonstrate its grandeur as an independent and sovereign state with defensive capabilities for self-defense and our people became able to firmly guarantee with arms the triumphant advance of the chuche revolutionary cause and its accomplishment. [applause]

The KPA, which has been strengthened and developed as regular revolutionary armed forces by inheriting the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition, splendidly carried out its honorable mission in safeguarding the cause of our party, the cause of socialism, and absolutely demonstrated the might of its invincibility in the great Fatherland Liberation War.

In the period of the formidable Fatherland Liberation War, upon which the country's destiny hinged, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, shouldering the heavy burden of the frontline and the rear-area, combined the entire party, the entire army, and all the people into one combat rank and organized and mobilized them in the sacred war to annihilate the enemy. He offered outstanding, creative strategic and tactical policy and chuche-based tactics and led the Fatherland Liberation War to victory with prodigious tactics. [applause]

Upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's leadership, the wise warriors of the KPA Army, Navy, and Air Force who rose in a war of justice handed a shameful defeat to the U.S. imperialist aggressors, who were proud of being the most powerful in the world, by displaying the popular heroism and matchless sacrifice and they gloriously defended gains of the fatherland's and the revolution's independence. [applause]

The heroic feat of the KPA officers and men, who devoted their youth and life to the party, the leader, the fatherland, and the people without hesitation in arduous fighting against the powerful imperialist combined force, including the U.S. imperialists, and who desperately defended every hill of the fatherland and every inch of the land with blood, will be forever remembered in the great history of the Fatherland Liberation War. [applause]

Throughout the formidable war, the people in the rear area were in the same combat force as the People's Army and actively contributed to the victory of war by vigorously undertaking wartime production and work to support the frontline, although the whole country was caught in a sheet of fire. Our people who rose in a sacred war against the imperialist armed invasion received positive support and encouragement from hundreds of millions of people in the world, in particular, the Chinese people, who launched a joint struggle against the Japanese imperialists over a long time and who helped our people's just struggle with blood by sending a volunteer army under the banner of anti-U.S. assistance. [applause]

Our people always have appreciated the wholehearted support and encouragement given to us by our friends during the severest ordeals and will never forget it. [applause]

The victory of our army and people over the most ferocious and formidable two imperialists in the anti-Japanese revolutionary war and the Fatherland Liberation War was the victory of the strong independent main force of the revolution over the reactionaries of history and was a powerful demonstration of the might of our revolutionary ranks firmly rallied around the party and the leader and their invincibility. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, after the war, stated a military line of self-defence by calling for the whole army to be turned into a cadre army, to be modernized, to be armed with all the people, and for the whole country to be fortified. He wisely led the struggle to implement this.

Our party's military line of self-defense is an original line which strengthens and develops our People's Army as invincible revolutionary armed forces by embodying the chuche idea in the military field and can make all the people participate in the fatherland's defense. It is also the most revolutionary line which can make us firmly defend and protect the fatherland and the cause of socialism on the basis of the characteristics of our society in which the leader, the party, and the masses are united with a single mind. [applause]

With the thorough implementation of the party's military line, our People's Army has been able to further strengthen and develop into a revolutionary armed force equal to 100 armies. It has reliably defended the security of the fatherland and the people in defiance of the enemies' more unscrupulous maneuvers for aggression

and war provocation, and thus, firmly guaranteed with arms our people's struggle to construct a mighty socialist country that is independent, self-sufficient, and self-reliant in national defense.

The cause of chuche military development pioneered by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song vigorously progresses under our party's tested leadership. [applause]

Our party propounded an outstanding line of modeling the entire army after the chuche idea to conform to the new demands of our developing revolution and wisely led the struggle for its realization.

Modeling the entire army after the chuche idea is a revolutionary line that makes all the People's Army soldiers true revolutionaries boundlessly loyal to the party and leader. It constantly strengthens and develops our People's Army into the chuche revolutionary armed force by embodying the demands of the chuche idea in all fields of military building and activity. [applause]

The party leadership system has been thoroughly established in the People's Army by vigorously accelerating the modeling of the entire army after the chuche idea. The tradition of single-minded unity and loyalty that was achieved at the early stage of the construction of the revolutionary armed forces has been firmly carried on. The revolutionary military ethos—in which the entire army moves as one according to the party center's order—has been established, and the beautiful customs of revolutionary comradely love, unity between officers and men, and unity between the Army and the people overflow among the ranks.

This is the lofty political and moral superiority of our People's Army and the source of the invincible strength of our revolutionary armed forces, which protect and defend our party's cause and the chuche socialist cause without the slightest trepidation, regardless of the challenges and maneuvers for aggression our enemies may make. [applause]

From the start of pioneering the chuche revolutionary cause through severe storms of the revolution to the present, our revolutionary armed forces have endured all sorts of hardship. While experiencing guerrilla and modern warfare, they have victoriously advanced and, through this course, grown to become an ever-victorious and invincible force with abundant fighting experience. [applause]

Our fatherland's security and the victory of our people's socialist cause have been firmly guaranteed, thanks to the iron- willed KPA, founded in the flames of the glorious anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle; tempered by the trials of the great Fatherland Liberation War and fierce class struggle; firmly armed with the chuche idea; and equipped with modern military science, technology, and equipment to meet our country's specific needs. [applause]

The KPA is the leader's and the party's army, boundlessly loyal to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, its founder and great leader [yongdoja], as well as to our party, guaranteeing the party's revolutionary cause by force of arms. [applause]

The entire history of our People's Army is a proud journey of faithfully fighting for the fatherland and the revolution under the leadership of the party and the leader for 60 years. It is a brilliant journey characterized by boundless loyalty to the party cause. [applause]

The first rank of our revolutionary armed forces, along with our party's history, has walked a victorious road since our glorious party was established. By upholding the party's cause, our revolutionary armed forces fulfilled their duty during the long, hard struggle.

In the past, the KPA was not only a main force unit in our people's national liberation war against the Japanese imperialists, but also a core force defending the revolution's headquarters. It embodied the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's leadership of the Korean revolution. [applause]

Every time there were difficulties in the revolution, our People's Army stood in the forefront of the struggle and resolutely advocated and defended the party and the leader, displaying a vanguard fighter's honor by fulfilling the party's line and policy.

We overcame many difficulties and smashed the enemy's endless maneuvers to prevent our people from moving forward because the People's Army was always in the forefront of the ranks. [applause]

During the difficult period after the war, our People's Army was challenged by reactionaries at home and abroad. Many difficulties and barriers confronted the revolution. Under the slogan, "Let us defend to the end with our lives the party Central Committee headed by Comrade Kim Il-song," our People's Army defended the party's cause and guaranteed victory of our country's socialist revolution. Our People's Army emphasized the slogan "What the party decides, we will do" to advance the chuche idea as a model for society, brilliantly helping to construct the grand socialist plan. [applause]

The soldiers of our People's Army are resolutely adhering to the revolutionary weapon and class weapon without the slightest wavering, resolutely advocating and protecting the party and the leader, sharing the party's fate, and loyally upholding the party's cause. [applause]

The KPA is endlessly loyal to the fatherland and people. It is a true army of the people struggling devotedly for the country's prosperity and happiness.

Our People's Army is a revolutionary force composed of the sons and daughters of the working masses; the blood ties with the people are the life of our revolutionary armed forces.

As a fish cannot live without water, our People's Army cannot live even for a second without the people. Our People's Army shares the people's fate. This bond is a traditional virtue of our army.

Whether during the blood-stained anti-Japanese war or the arduous days defending the struggle to construct a new society, the blood ties with the people allowed the People's Army to not only fulfill its duty as a true People's Army but also triumph over all kinds of difficulties. [applause]

The laudable tradition of unity between the Army and people which has been constantly enhanced along with the victorious advance of our revolution is more fully efflorescing at a new higher stage today under our party's leadership. That the people treasure and love the People's Army like their own sons and daughters and that all soldiers of the People's Army help the people and devotedly serve them have become laudable traditions which exist throughout our society today. [applause]

Our People's Army—which is not only the fatherland's defender, but is also the creator of the people's happiness—has actively participated in construction work for the country's enrichment and development and for the people's favorable life-style amid the people's heart-warming love and sincere encouragement and, thus, has fully displayed peerless devotion and mass heroism in building monumental edifices in the Workers' Party era.

The KPA is the iron-willed army which has been not only armed with the chuche idea, the guiding ideology of our revolution, but also has been outstandingly prepared politically, ideologically, militarily, and technologically. Superiority in political and ideological areas are noble (?assets) of the revolutionary army of the working class, and defeating the enemy's superior numbers and technology with its political, ideological, strategical, and tactical superiority is the glorious tradition of our revolutionary armed forces. [applause]

The might of our People's Army is first of all its political and ideological might. The revolutionary character of our People's Army, the revolutionary army of the chuche revolution, and the source of its ever-victorious and invincible strength truly lie in its taking the great chuche idea as the firm guiding principle of army building and all military activities.

Our People's Army has been outstandingly prepared not only politically and ideologically, but also militarily and technologically. Our People's Army has not only the lofty ideological consciousness and the mental and moral features of faithfully fighting for the party, the revolution, the fatherland, the people, as it devotes its all, but the army is also armed with modern weapons and combat and technological equipment. It also has great military knowledge and technology and skillfully performs all combat duties. Having this mighty and reliable People's Army is truly the great pride of our people. [applause]

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song—who created and enriched the great military ideology, military theory, and military tactics and has achieved multilateral achievements and experiences in the course of the protracted and arduous struggle of leading the cause of building the chuche army—is an outstanding military commander of our time, and his revered name is shining as the symbol of the victory of the anti-imperialist cause for independence. [applause]

That the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song—who has registered the immortal achievements for the fatherland and the revolution by founding our revolutionary armed forces and wisely leading it—has been upheld as the DPRK's generalissimo is not only the realization of the unanimous desire of our people and the People's Army, but is also a great felicitous national event. [applause]

All noble achievements and immortal exploits that have been embroidered on the long and glorious militant course of 60 years are brilliant victories of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's chuche-oriented military ideology and noble fruitions of the outstanding and tested leadership of the party and leader. [applause]

At this important meeting celebrating the 60th anniversary of the KPA founding, I extend utmost honor and warmest thanks to Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, who founded the chuche revolutionary armed forces, rescued the nation's destiny and sovereignty from the powerful U.S. and Japanese imperialist forces, and who, thus, has turned our country into a mighty, independent, self-reliant, and self-defending socialist country. [applause, shouts of slogans]

Comrades, today our party and people are faced with the honorable duty of fulfilling the chuche cause by vigorously accelerating the revolution along the road pioneered by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. The lofty mission of the People's Army is to guarantee the inheritance of the chuche revolutionary cause with force of arms.

As it has reliably safeguarded and defended our revolution in the past, the People's Army will continue to brilliantly fulfill the chuche revolutionary cause under the party's leadership. [applause]

For the People's Army to perform its mission and duty as the party's revolutionary armed forces, it is imperative to vigorously accelerate the work of modeling the entire army after the chuche idea. The chuche idea is to fulfill our party's cause—that is, the chuche revolutionary cause—and consistently implement [word indistinct], firmly grasp the principle of chuche [word indistinct], is the basic guarantee for the final victory of our revolution. [applause]

Upholding the slogan "Let us model the entire army after the chuche idea," we should see that all soldiers thoroughly arm themselves with the chuche idea and pledge to the party and leader their faith, conscience, and morality, as well as their daily way of life, to fill the ranks

of the People's Army with loyal, dutiful children infinitely faithful to the party and leader. [applause]

KPA officers and men, who are destined to inherit our revolution from generation to generation, should unite the independent driving force by resolutely defending our party's glorious revolutionary tradition and endlessly developing its essential core—the single-minded unity of the leader, party, and popular masses. [applause]

Unity between officers and men, army and people, party members and League of Socialist Working Youth members is an important trait the KPA should bear.

As in the past, KPA officers and men should ensure the tradition of unity fills there ranks whereby superiors and subordinates help guide each other. They should identify their fate with that of the fatherland and people and devotedly struggle to defend the people's lives, property, and happiness.

The people should establish a social spirit of valuing military affairs, vigorously launch a movement to win the title of model country of unity, and actively contribute to strengthening the People's Army.

The People's Army's political and ideological superiority displays its invincible might when combined with its military and technological preparedness. We should ensure all soldiers become invincible warriors through steely discipline and party training.

The People's Army should plan and supervise not only the companies and basic combat units, but also the strengthening of combat capabilities. Politically and ideologically, the army should concentrate on perfecting companies' combat preparedness to form itself into a chuche-type, steely combat force.

To fulfill its honorable mission and duty, the People's Army must be boundlessly loyal to the party leadership. Officers and men of the People's Army should uphold the party leadership with the same military spirit as that of the Paektu revolutionary spirit and one-a-match-for-100 combat spirit. They should establish within the entire army a revolutionary military trait of performing as one under the command of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the respected and beloved supreme commander. [applause]

Today when the anti-socialist, anti-Republic maneuvers of imperialists and reactionaries are becoming more extreme, officers and men of the People's Army and People's Security Forces, as well as Red Worker-Peasant Militia members and Red Youth Guards, should stand guard against an easygoing and slackening attitude. They should maintain a high degree of revolutionary vigilance, keep a keen eye on the enemy's movements, and be ready for combat mobilization to cope with any kind of unexpected development.

To firmly defend and further develop our own style of socialism is a basic demand for fulfilling the chuche revolutionary cause. We should carry out the chuche socialist cause on the strength of the single-minded unity, unity that has consolidated the people and entire army, as well as the party and leader. [applause]

Under the chuche revolutionary banner, all people should vigorously launch the three revolutions—ideological, technical, cultural—to further increase socialist construction and glorify our own style of socialism centered on the popular masses. [applause]

We now face the urgent national task of realizing the country's independent and peaceful reunification. National reunification is a longstanding, unanimous desire of the entire Korean population, and it is our party's firm, unwavering will to realize national reunification at any cost before the end of the nineties. [applause]

We will make positive efforts to ensure that the North and South sincerely implement the North-South agreement in all political, military, economic, and cultural areas so that the agreement will lead to national reunification.

The most urgent task to be accomplished for an independent and peaceful reunification of the country is to guarantee lasting peace on the Korean peninsula. The South Korean authorities should stop their arms race [kunbin kyongjaeng], disarm, immediately discontinue the criminal war exercises they conduct with U.S. imperialist aggression troops, and take substantial measures toward peace on the Korean peninsula.

Transforming the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone is the consistent stand of our party and the DPRK. Without fail, we will realize denuclearization of the Korean peninsula by thoroughly implementing the joint declaration of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the nuclear safeguards accord signed between the republic's government and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The United States and South Korean authorities should renounce the dark intention of trying to threaten someone with nuclear inspection problem or to seek other goals, using it as an excuse. They should accept total inspection without delay, and should withdraw U.S. forces and all armed forces of aggression from South Korea at the earliest possible date. If they recklessly force their unwarranted demands upon others, running counter to the current trends, and foolishly continue to resort to playing with fire, they will assume responsibility before history for unforeseen consequences arising therefrom.

Our nation is truly the main force for national reunification, and by vigorously struggling, firmly uniting as one under the lofty name of patriotism, all Korean compariots in the North, the South, and overseas will smash the maneuvers of splittists at home and abroad and achieve the historic cause of national reunification without fail. [applause]

Our nation's destiny is closely linked with the destiny of the people of the world, and the basic ideal of independence, peace, and friendship that our party and the DPRK have adhered to in the field of foreign relations reflects the common aspiration of our people and the progressive people of the world to build an independent, friendly, and peaceful new world.

As in the past, we will also in the future firmly unite and closely cooperate with all progressive parties and peoples of the world and make all possible efforts for the victory of the anti-imperialist cause of independence. [applause]

When all progressive parties and peoples of the world struggle shoulder to shoulder in the (?same) ranks with loyalty to and firm faith in the cause of independence, all kinds of reactionary maneuvers to reverse history's flow will be smashed and mankind's bright future will be further expedited.

I take this opportunity to express deep thanks to governments, political parties, and public organizations of different countries of the world; international organizations; and the peace-loving peoples of the world for their active support for and encouragement of our people's struggle for socialist construction and the country's independent and peaceful reunification. I also express my firm conviction that they will extend firm solidarity with our people's just cause also in the future. [applause]

Our revolution's future road is still arduous and rugged. However, as long as there is the wise leadership of the party and the leader and as long as there are the heroic people and the powerful and mighty revolutionary armed forces that are boundlessly loyal to the party's cause, our victory is certain. [applause]

Let us all firmly rally around the party headed by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song and vigorously fight for the victory of the socialist cause, for the country's independent and peaceful reunification, and for the consummation of the chuche revolutionary cause. [applause]

Long live Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people. [shouts of hurrah and applause]

Long live the glorious WPK, the organizer and guide of all our people's victories. [shouts of hurrah and applause]

Long live the 60th anniversary of the founding of the heroic KPA, the revolutionary armed forces of our party. [shouts of hurrah and applause]

## South Korea

### First-Quarter Deficit With U.S. at $965 Million

*SK2904044092 Seoul YONHAP in English*
*0110 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea's first-quarter trade deficit with the United States was 965 million U.S. dollars, more than the figure for all of last year, officials said Wednesday.

Prospects are dim for the remainder of the year because of an economic slump in the United States, growing imports, and a dumping investigation against Korean steel and semiconductors by the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC), they said.

The 965 million-dollar deficit for January-March is about five times the 197 million-dollar shortfall in the same period last year and tops the 759 million-dollar deficit for the entire 1991.

Exports to the United States grew 3.7 percent to 3.951 billion dollars from the same quarter last year, but were overshadowed by a 7.5-percent increase in imports to 4.916 billion dollars.

Exports face hard times when the U.S. Commerce Department and the ITC hand down their decision on Korean semiconductors and steel products around September, the officials said.

The United States decided April 22 to formally investigate dumping charges filed by American companies against Korean 1-mega d-rams semiconductors. An initial report is due within 160 days.

The Commerce Department made its initial ruling on the same day on Korean standard and stainless pipes, comparing the price differences. It is to continue its probe until September before turning it over to the ITC for a final decision.

### Bonn, Seoul To Set Up APEC-EC Dialogue

*SK2904065292 Seoul YONHAP in English*
*0534 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and Germany have agreed to help open a formal consultation channel between the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the European Community (EC), the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

The agreement was made at the 16th South Korea-Germany joint economic talks Tuesday in Seoul, Ministry officials said.

The two countries said they would work together to set up a dialogue channel between the 15-nation APEC and the European bloc for enhanced economic cooperation.

They discussed recall of generalized system of preference (GSP) favors for Korea by the EC from next year, and Korean officials said that GSP status should be extended for four to five years.

German officials voiced the hope that German firms would participate in Korea's high-speed electric railway project.

Germany's ICE is competing with the Anglo-French TGV and Japanese Shinkansen for the South Korean project.

Germany asked that Korea ease customs regulations on original price and country labeling to improve bilateral trade, the officials said.

Korea urged Germany to participate in the '93 Taejon Expo, but Germany said it would decide after further consideration, they said.

Ho Seung, assistant foreign minister, led the Korean delegation. Klaus Beckmann, vice economic minister, led the German team.

## Ministry To Continue 'Tight' Money Policy

*SK2904064892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0500 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—The government would maintain its tight monetary policy and not seek to lower interest rates artificially, Finance Minister Yi Yong-man said Wednesday.

Lunching with some 200 business leaders at the Federation of Korean Industries, Yi said a loosening of monetary policy and forcible lowering of interest rates would only fan inflation and weaken the international competitiveness of domestic firms.

The government would maintain total money supply growth at 18.5 percent and see to it that limited loans were given to manufacturing and small- and medium-sized firms, he said.

Expanding the money supply might only push up consumer prices instead of increasing production under the current circumstances, where full employment is almost achieved and actual growth has surpassed potential growth, he said.

As for the business leaders' demand for lower interest rates, he said the government would not lower rates artificially by increasing the money supply or mobilizing administrative power, because such measures would fuel inflation and wage growth, thus weakening the competitiveness of domestic firms.

Noting that Japan suffered from overheating of its economic activities, two-digit inflation and other serious side-effects after forcibly lowering interest rates in the early 1970s, he said the government would seek to stabilize the rates through price stability, appropriate level of growth and restriction of real estate speculation.

Touching on the activities of business conglomerates, the minister said it was urgent for them to stop expanding business lines of different natures to survive the growing international competition.

"In the early stage of industrial development, the octopus-like expansion of business lines by conglomerates stimulated economic growth, but now it is urgent for the nation to introduce a specialized, professional management system through specialization of business and separation of company ownership and management," he said.

Yi said Britain had for some time led the world economy, but now lagged behind the United States and Japan because it paid too little attention to business specialization and modernization of management.

The government will reduce taxes on companies which lead others in the efforts to enhance business specialization and professional management. Credit control will be eased on those companies and favors will be given in terms of the fair trade law, he said.

## DPRK Business Practices Causing Trade Problems

*SK2904051192 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 26 Apr 92 p 7*

[Article by reporter Yi Chin-chae: "North Korea Rejects Shipping Cargo, Demands Change of Importer"]

[Text] Domestic firms pushing ahead with trade between the North and South are experiencing great difficulties due to North Korea's unreasonable business practices. The firms recently sent ships to pick up North Korean-made goods. The ships, however, returned empty because North Korea suddenly refused to allow them to transport the goods and demanded that the importer be changed. The firms are trying to work out an appropriate solution.

According to business circles on 25 April, the Ssangyong Group recently sent a ship to North Korea to load cement. However, the North Korean exporter with no clear reason demanded that the cement importer be changed. Thus, Ssangyong's ship returned empty. In addition, Hyosong Mulsan Company sent a ship to transport 600 tons of zinc with the ROK Government's import permission, but failed to ship the item due to a similar North Korean demand.

Samsung Mulsan Company also sent a ship to North Korea to pick up 2,043 tons of zinc. It, too, is experiencing difficulties with the North Korean exporter demanding that the South Korean importer be changed. The Lucky Gold-Star Company sent a ship to North Korea to transport cement; its shipment is near completion. The North Korean exporter abruptly has demanded changing the name of importer, but the company is bent on working out a solution.

To cope with this situation, the Council of General Business Firms recently met to discuss measures to cope with such inconsistent trade practices by the North Korean side, but it failed to reach a clear conclusion. The Council thus called on the government to work out proper measures.

In view of the fact that the North Korean side demanded change of importers with the shipment of pertinent goods almost completed, the business firms believe that the North Korean side is attempting to use North-South economic cooperation for strategic purposes. They stress the need for active steps by the government.

Firms note that the North Korean side frequently demands changing South Korean importers to "D" general trading companies, but doubt that North Korea's sudden change in attitude is related to the "D" group which is exerting all efforts for contact with North Korea. They urge the government to investigate.

### Daewoo To Open Joint Ventures in Vietnam, Spain

*SK2904085592 Seoul YONHAP in English*
*0827 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—Daewoo Group Subsidiaries will open joint ventures in Vietnam and Spain to assemble cars and to sell electronic products, Daewoo officials said Wednesday.

A spokesman for Daewoo Corp. said the company would start building an automobile assembly factory in Hanoi in May under a contract signed with the Economic Technology Corp. at Vietnam's Defense Ministry in April.

The 60-40 Daewoo-Vietnam joint venture will go into operation in early 1993 and will produce more than 400 buses and trucks a year, the spokesman said. Production of sedans and other vehicles would follow before long, he added.

Daewoo Corp. and Tong-Yang Moolsan Co. will sign a contract to build a plant to assemble farm machinery and engines with the Vietnamese Ministry of Heavy Industry.

Meanwhile, Daewoo Electronics Co. Ltd. opened Daewoo Electronics Espania S.A., a 55-45 joint venture with Spanish distributor Eure S.A., in Barcelona on Wednesday.

Daewoo is to sell color television sets, video cassette recorders, microwave ovens, refrigerators and other electronic products through the joint venture. Daewoo Electronics also has marketing subsidiaries in the United States and France.

### Indonesian Official Arrives To Sign for Loan

*SK2904103092 Seoul YONHAP in English*
*0929 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—Indonesian Assistant Finance Minister Benjamin Parwoto arrived in Seoul Wednesday afternoon to sign a letter of intent with the Export-Import Bank of Korea for a 25 million-U.S. dollar loan.

The loan, from the government's Economic Development and Cooperation Fund (EDCF), is for an Indonesian Government program for rotating job training workshops for rural residents, the bank said.

Parwoto and Yi Kwang-su, president of the bank, will sign the letter of intent at the bank's headquarters Thursday.

The won-denominated loan is for 18 years with a seven-year grace period and carries an annual interest rate of 3.5 percent. It is the second EDCF loan to Indonesia. The fund was established in 1987 to help underdeveloped nations and has made seven loans so far.

### Minister Proposes New Environmental Issues Office

*SK2904084292 Seoul YONHAP in English*
*0708 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 29 (YONHAP)—South Korean Environment Minister Kwon I-hyok said Wednesday he would propose that the government form a special body in the prime minister's office to tackle environmental issues.

The special body would collect opinions and proposals from other ministries and governmental agencies and work out overall measures to help solve environmental questions, Kwon said.

Kwon revealed his plan after attending the second ministerial meeting of developing countries on environment and development here Wednesday.

Acknowledging that the Korean Government had been indifferent to environmental issues, Kwon said Korea planned to take an active part in the World Environmental Conference in Rio de Janeiro in June.

Kwon, who has also visited the United Nations Environment Projects (UNEP) in Kenya, said he recognized the importance of the world environment as it will affect Korea's economic and industrial development. Korea could not claim a legitimate place in the world community unless its government worked out a comprehensive and effective environmental policy, he said.

At the same time, Kwon expressed concern over the possibility that Korea might become a scapegoat among newly developing countries if it could not reflect its positions in various international restrictions for environmental protection.

Korea had to undertake "active environmental diplomacy" as it was hemmed in between advanced and developing countries, Kwon said.

Korea expected to join the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in 1995 and therefore it could no longer keep asking for exemption from international restrictions for environmental protection, he said.

To cope with the restrictions, which would get tougher in the years to come, Kwon said, the country should foster the growth of the environmental industry and develop technology to eliminate various forms of pollution.

### Australian Environment Minister Arrives for Talks

*SK2904103992 Seoul YONHAP in English*
*1003 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (OANA-YONHAP)—Australian Arts, Sports, the Environment and Territories Minister

Ros Kelly, arrived here Wednesday afternoon for talks with South Korean officials.

Kelly is to meet with Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and Environment Minister Kwon I-hyok to discuss the environmental issues in the global community.

She is likely to discuss with Korean officials issues debated at the second ministerial meeting of developing countries on environment and development, which closed in Malaysia Tuesday, and topics to be tabled at the World Environment Conference slated to be held in June in Rio de Janeiro, a government source said.

## *Kim Chong-il Conflict With Army Leaders Examined

*922C0129A Seoul PUKHAN in Korean*
*No 3, Mar 92 pp 144-151*

[Article by Konguk University lecturer An Chae-song: "Troubles of Military Leaders Faithful to Kim Chong-il, the Supreme Commander of the People's Army"]

[Text] A look at the history of those faithful to Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander, reveals that they are all graduates of the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Institute [MRI].

The MRI has turned out over 2,000 graduates to date and they now represent 20 percent of the party Central Committee, 30 percent of the Political Bureau and 32 percent of the party Military Affairs Committee.

### Kim Chong-il Now Controls the Military

In North Korea where they still perceive all social developments as in a revolutionary period, the Korean People's Army [KPA] is its vanguard force.

Kim Chong-il began his rise as a leader in 1973 as the world was visibly headed toward exiting from the cold war. It was at the sixth congress of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] in October 1980 that he got his first military assignment. He was named to the Military Affairs Committee of the WPK Central Committee, ranking third on the roster.

Overly loyal elements were already calling him the supreme commander as early as October 1983.

Eight years after that, on 24 December last year, Kim Chong-il was officially installed as the supreme commander at the 19th plenum of the sixth WPK Central Committee. It can be said that by then he had actually been more than a supreme commander.

Earlier, at the first session of the Eighth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], the control over the Ministry of People's Armed Forces and the Ministry of National Defense was shifted from the State Administration Council to the Central People's Committee, and General O Kuk-yol was replaced by General Choe Kwang as chief of the General Staff.

At the first session of the Ninth SPA in May 1990, Kim Chong-il was appointed first vice chairman—a newly created post—of the National Defense Commission, which became independent from the Central People's Committee.

Thus, Kim Chong-il was given a military job first while he was still kept in a symbolic role in his early days in the party.

In May 1975, each KPA regiment held a rally at the initiative of Colonel General Yi Yong-mo, director of the KPA General Political Bureau, with this call: "Let us have the great leader Kim Il-song as generalissimo, and the dear comrade Kim Chong-il as the first secretary of the WPK Central Committee!"

Needless to say, neither demand was met.

Kim Chong-il, who took over the Military Affairs Committee of the WPK Central Committee (1980), took about a decade to reach the National Defense Commission post (1990), then the office of the supreme commander (1991). During this period, the KPA underwent as many changes as it had through the Korean war and the process of the 1960's that turned it into a basic force for a South Korean revolution.

First came the change involving the military elite—in the form of conflict between the first- and second-generation revolutionaries.

The present director of the Military Affairs Department of the KPA Central Committee is General Yi Ha-il, a figure totally unknown until he made an unexpected appearance at a KPA chief officers meeting in Pyongyang on 15 October last year.

This can be interpreted as reflecting an effort to minimize military policy discords between the old-timers and the rising generation amid changes in the wake of the cold war and the downfall of socialism, by choosing a shilly-shally, civilian bureaucrat-turned military officer over Kim Tu-nam, a hard-liner, for the post.

The North Korean-style conflict between the conservative and reformist factions produced antagonism between O Chin-u and O Kuk-yol, which eventually resulted in the latter's dismissal in 1988 as chief of the General Staff.

At the time, gossip over the ignorance of O Chin-u, a member of the anti-Japanese partisan generation, was widespread among KPA personnel. Following are some of the stories:

### Feud Between O Chin-u and O Kuk-yol

While watching a KPA band performance from his royal box seat, O Chin-u spotted a member of the band waiting for his turn in music, and gave his order: "That guy is not doing anything. Kick him out!." He made himself a laughingstock.

On another occasion, in the course of a troop inspection at KPA 3d Division to pick a company for the Red Flag of the Three Revolutions title, he scolded a company commander for what he saw as an unsatisfactory art propaganda performance. When the company commander responded by saying that the lack of a contrabass caused the disharmony in the chord, O Chin-u, who thought he meant that a serviceman had stolen the contrabass and put it in his knapsack, shouted "Check the knapsacks of soldiers and find it!" Staff officers present reportedly had a hard time suppressing their laughter.

Vice Marshal O Chin-u, minister of national defense, and Gen. O Kuk-yol, a member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee, are said to be on bad terms these days. They would not even look at each other when they happened to meet in a corridor; only their aides would exchange greetings.

O Chin-u studied in the Soviet Union for about two years 1956-58, together with Lieutenant General Yu Song-chol, director of the Operations Bureau, and Lieutenant General Kim Chang-pong, deputy chief of the General Staff. Otherwise, he had no opportunity to receive systematic education as O Kuk-yol did.

Kim Hwan, known as Kim Chong-il's economic brain, was dismissed as vice premier in 1987 while attempting to implement a "family responsibility system" reform patterned after the Chinese land system; likewise, it can be said, Chief of the General Staff O Kuk-yol's attempt to strengthen the commander unitary control system in the KPA met opposition from the partisan group.

From then on, O Chin-u took over as director of the General Political Bureau (and concurrently as the responsible secretary of the party committee within the KPA), in place of the ailing So Chol.

The second problem involved the image and morale of the KPA, in the wake of deepening differences over the limitations of the military complex because of economic failures and the impact of troop mobilizations into industrial projects on the original organizational features of the military.

To date, KPA units have been mobilized in construction projects including those for the Nampo Floodgate, the Pyongyang-Kaesong Freeway, the Taechon power plant, the Pyongyang City tram line, as well as the for-50,000-families housing project. Thus, they have been functioning as a force to fulfill a labor-intensive role in massive construction programs.

This kind of troop mobilization into construction sites, giving an impression as if the KPA were an industry maintenance army, is anything but what the military should be, the perception that the military should be kept strong through regular training and logistics and day-to-day details.

Therefore, the 15 October 1991 chief officers meeting was followed by a KPA-wide company commanders meeting on 10 November, and a meeting of company-level political functionaries on 25 December, the day after Kim Chong-il's ascent to the supreme commander post, and all these meetings urged the strengthening of the KPA.

### Kim Chong-il at Political Guidance Functionaries Meeting

Kim Chong-il attended only the political functionaries meeting, the last of the three meetings.

Meetings of company commanders and political guidance functionaries held since January 1969, when the KPA fell to a private army of Kim Il-song, are as follows (Table 1):

**Table 1. List of North Korean Military Commanders and Political Functionaries Held to Date**

"Subunit Commanders and Political Functionaries Meeting" 23-27 October 1969; attended by Kim Il-song, O Chin-u, Choe Hyon, and over 20,000 company commanders and political guidance functionaries. Discussed establishment of the unitary ideological system among subunit leaders; strengthening of communist, socialist indoctrination; strengthening of combat power and political work through implementation of the military lines; improvement of logistic activities (supply); enhancement of combat preparedness, combat training and capabilities. Domestic and international situations at the time: the fourth plenum of the fourth KPA chiefs conference held (4 January 1969); Kim Chang-pong, Ho Pong-hak and Choe Kwang purged; U.S. EC-121 reconnaissance plane shot down (15 April 1969).

"Company Commanders and Political Guidance Functionaries Meeting" 10-13 October 1973; attended by Kim Il-song, O Chin-u, Choe Hyon, O Paek-yong, and over 20,000 subunit commanders and political guidance functionaries. Discussed strengthening of company commanders' position and role, stressing that company commanders are responsible for military matters and political guidance functionaries for political (party) affairs; strengthening of military training; establishment of the unitary ideological system; improvement of logistic activities. Domestic and international situations at the time: the South Korean Government makes a foreign policy declaration seeking peaceful reunification (23 June 1973); North Korea declares suspension of the North-South talks (August 1973).

"Company Commanders and Political Guidance Functionaries Meeting" 2 September 1985; attended by Kim Il-song, O Chin-u, O Kuk-yol, (Kim Chong-il also attended for the first time), and by over 20,000 subunit commanders and political functionaries. Discussed strengthening of the role of military commanders (company commanders); strengthening of the entire KPA as a one-a-match-for-100 revolutionary army urged. Domestic and international situations at the time: North-South home visit groups exchanged (September 1985); North Korea adopts a new economic line

(the joint venture law, September 1984), declares 1985 as "the year for stabilization of the people's living conditions."

"All-Army Company Commanders Meeting" 10-11 November 1991, attended by Kim Il-song, O Chin-u, Choe Kwang, and over 15,000 company commanders. Discussed the tasks to consolidate companies as collectives of loyal and dutiful sons and as one-for-a-match-for-100 combat ranks; arming with a chuche-based view of war in accordance with the demand of the times; economic upgrading and enhancement of vigilance. Domestic and international situations at the time: pressure against nuclear development; cold treatment by China and the Soviet Union; worsening of the economic crisis; sagging morale in military units (the incident of a massive explosion at Pyonggang); simultaneous admission to the UN of North and South Korea.

"KPA company-Level Political Guidance Functionaries Meeting" 25-26 November 1991; attended by Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il, O Chin-u, Choe Kwang, and over 15,000 political guidance functionaries. Discussed the same at the above meeting; faithfulness and unchanging allegiance to Supreme Commander Kim Chong-il urged. Domestic and international situations at the time: same as at the above meeting.

Meanwhile, since Kim Chong-il was installed as the supreme commander on 24 December last year, North Korea has held more than 200 mass rallies to welcome the action, while newspapers printed congratulatory messages from leaders and organizations in countries friendly to it.

If Kim Chong-il should receive the President or Marshal title by the end of this year, those close to him will be able to come out of their present stagnancy.

Following (Table 2) is a brief comparison of the forces close to Kim Chong-il, currently outnumbered, with those high-ranking military leaders who showed up at the recent chief officers meeting and the company commanders and political guidance functionaries meetings:

**Table 2. High-Ranking Military Leaders of the Kim Il-song Generation**

O Chin-u (vice marshal, 77, ex-guerrilla), minister of People's Armed Forces, member of the National Defense Commission, member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee.

Choe Kwang (general, ex-guerrilla), chief of the General staff, chairman [as printed] of the National Defense Commission.

Yi Ul-sol (general, ex-guerrilla), member of the National Defense Commission, chief of the Secret Service Bureau.

Chu To-il (general, ex-guerrilla), member of the National Defense Commission.

Chon Mun-sop (general, ex-guerrilla), member of the WPK Central Committee, vice minister of People's Armed Forces.

Yi Tu-ik (general, ex-guerrilla), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee, commander of 4th Corps.

Choe In-tok (general, ex-guerrilla), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee.

Paek Hak-nim (general, ex-guerrilla), member of the WPK Central Committee, minister of public security.

Kim Pong-yul (general, ex-guerrilla), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee, vice minister of People's Armed Forces.

Kim Kwang-chin (general), member of the National Defense Commission, vice minister of People's Armed Forces.

Kim Chol-man (general, ex-guerrilla), member of the National Defense Commission, in charge of civil armed forces.

**High-Ranking Military Leaders of the Kim Chong-il Generation:**

O Kuk-yol (general, 60, MRI graduate), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee.

Kim Tu-nam (general, MRI graduate), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee.

Yi Pong-won (colonel general, MRI graduate), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee, deputy chief of the General Political Bureau.

Choe Sang-uk (colonel general, MRI graduate), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee, commander of the Navy.

Kim Kang-hwan (colonel general, MRI graduate), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee, deputy chief of the General Staff.

O Yong-pang (colonel general, MRI graduate), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee.

Cho Myong-nok (colonel general, MRI graduate), member of the WPK Military Affairs Committee.

Yi Hong-sun (lieutenant general, MRI graduate), candidate member of the WPK Central Committee, deputy chief of the General Staff.

O Ki-su (lieutenant general, MRI graduate), deputy to the SPA, president of the Kim Il-song Political Institute.

Chon Pyong-ho (MRI graduate), member of the National Defense Commission, in charge of military diplomacy.

**History of MRI Graduates:**

| O Kuk-yol | |
|---|---|
| **Date** | **History, Activity** |
| 1928 | born in Jilin, Northeast China |
| [unspecified] | graduates from MRI |
| [unspecified] | graduates from Soviet Air Force Academy |
| [unspecified] | anti-Japan guerrilla, with Kim Il-song |
| Nov 1967 | deputy to 4th SPA |
| Nov 1970 | member of WPK CC (5th WPK congress) |
| Dec 1972 | deputy to 5th SPA |
| Oct 1980 | member of WPK CC Mil Affairs Comm (6th congress) |
| Oct 1980 | mbr of WPK CC Political Comm |
| Apr 1988 | director, WPK CC Civil Defense Department |
| Feb 1982 | deputy to 7th SPA |
| Apr 1982 | mbr of Central Ppl's Comm, awarded Order of KIS |
| Nov 1986 | deputy to 8th SPA |
| Sep 1988 | director, WPK CC Civil Defense Department |
| Apr 1990 | deputy to 9th SPA |

| Kim Tu-nam | |
|---|---|
| **Date** | **History, Activity** |
| 1927 | born in N. Pyongan |
| 1947 | graduates from MRI |
| 1952 | graduates from Kang Kon Mil Officer School |
| 1963 | finishes Soviet Mil Academy course |
| Oct 1967 | deputy to 4th SPA |
| Oct 1980 | mbr, WPK CC and Mil Affairs Comm (6th congress) |
| Feb 1982 | deputy to 7th SPA |
| Aug 1982 | candidate mbr, WPK CC Political Bureau |
| 1986 | (full member of the same, 5th plenum of 6th CC) |
| Oct 1982 | dir, WPK CC Mil Affairs Dept (6th plenum of 6th CC) |
| Nov 1986 | deputy to 8th SPA |
| Apr 1990 | deputy to 9th SPA |

| Yi Pong-won | |
|---|---|
| **Date** | **History, Activity** |
| 1925 | born in S. Hamgyong |
| [unspecified] | graduates from MRI |
| [unspecified | graduates from KIS University |
| Aug 1970 | responsible secretary of WPK Kaesong City Comm |
| Nov 1970 | candidate mbr of WPK CC (5th congress) |
| Dec 1972 | deputy to 5th SPA, mbr of SPA Budget Comm |
| 1975 | chairman of S. Hamgyong Province Ppl's Comm |
| Oct 1980 | mbr, WPK CC Mil Affairs Comm (6th congress) |
| Feb 1982 | deputy to 7th SPA |
| Dec 1986 | dpty to 8th SPA; mbr, Qualifications Screening Comm |
| Dec 1986 | dep dir, Ppl's Armed Forces Ministry Gen Pol Bureau |
| Apr 1990 | deputy to 9th SPA |
| Nov 1990 | visits China as head of KPA pol. functionaries deleg. |
| May 1991 | visits USSR as head of KPA Political Bureau deleg. |

Needless to say, there have been no signs as yet of any line being drawn between the Kim Il-song faithfuls and those close to Kim Chong-il, or any policy difference surfacing between them. This seems typical of the North Korean system.

However, if Kim Il-song dies or comes to transfer all his powers to Kim Chong-il, it is not impossible, considering the influence of the KPA, that ex-guerrilla leaders will be weeded out at a stroke. If they are allowed to stay, it should be noted that the partisan-generation leaders are people who have been granted the kind of "benevolence" for which they feel little hesitation to pay the same loyalty to Kim Chong-il as they did to Kim Il-song.

An analysis of Kim Chong-il's personnel management policy reveals that even with leaders who committed errors, he tends to reinstate them boldly after punishing them for the mistakes. To prove it, there were such conspicuous cases involving Kim Chol-man and Yi Yong-mo, who were thus rehabilitated although it all occurred of course under the influence of Kim Il-song.

**Mostly MRI Graduates**

Immediately after Liberation, Kim Il-song sent people out to all areas in North Korea and Northeast China to look for relatives of comrades who had fought together with him. Thus, the Mangyongdae Institute for Revolutionaries' Bereaved Children was established in 1947, with Kim chong-suk, Kim Ok-sun and Pak Kyong-ok, playing a major role in it. It was renamed the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Institute in 1953 immediately after the Korean war.

Subsequently, similar institutes for children of deceased revolutionaries were established in Nampo and Haeju. Especially, the one in Nampo, called the "Kang Pan-sok Revolutionary Institute" after Kim Il-song's mother, is for training women leaders.

In these schools, children of high-ranking officials who finished their primary education at people's schools go through a seven-year middle- and high-level course, receiving general and military training intensively. They wear a specially designed military uniform and all live in the dormitory.

As days go by, the number of bereaved children of revolutionaries would naturally diminish, leaving the vacancies to be filled by children of high-ranking officials, labor heroes who performed exploits and were killed in line of duty in the course of socialist construction, and of disabled veterans.

Those faithful to Kim Chong-il are all big seniors among MRI graduates seething with the pride and confidence that they are the ones to carry on the "bloodline of revolution."

They spent their childhood in a military uniform and have served in the KPA for more than two decades. Loyalty to a new dictator comes very natural to them; it is difficult at the moment to expect them to have their revolutionary consciousness refined and recognize peace and stability as the things of highest value.

The 19th plenum of the sixth WPK Central Committee, which elected Kim Chong-il to the post of the supreme commander of the KPA on 24 December last year, discussed two items.

The first was on the results of the fifth North-South high-level talks and future tasks to push forward the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

In the second item, an organizational subject, the plenum promoted Kim Ha-kyu (KPA lieutenant general), Kim Kyok-sik and Won Ung-hui (both major general) from candidate member to full member of the WPK Central Committee. They are also among the Kim Chong-il faithfuls.

### Loyalty to Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il Urged

The same plenum also elected new candidate members—Chong Ha-chol, Kim Ki-yong, Kim Chong-kak, Paek Chang-sik, Kim Tae-sik, Hyon Chol-hae, Chae Kyu-pin, Kim Yong-yong, and Chae Hyong-sik. They are also young cadres of the Kim Chong-il generation.

Addressing the 25 December meeting of KPA company-level political guidance functionaries at the Pyongyang Gymnasium, Kim Il-song told the audience: "The 19th plenum of the sixth WPK Central Committee decided to have Comrade Kim Chong-il as the supreme commander of the KPA. So, from now on, the whole army must devote its loyalty to the supreme commander."

However, it was difficult to find the same old "purity" in the expression of the more than 15,000 political guidance functionaries at the meeting as in the past. In addition, internal and external situations will not allow North Korea to remain a closed society any longer.

Will Kim Il-song or the ex-guerrilla, military elite under him breathe their last and be buried peacefully in the Taesongsan "revolutionary martyrs cemetery" or do otherwise? It all depends on Kim Il-song and his faithfuls.

In the future, North Korea will likely take a more positive stance for arms reductions on the Korean peninsula. In the current trends, changes in the situation surrounding the peninsula are working to relatively diminish the importance of military strength.

Although the possibility of the North Korean military mounting opposition and resistance cannot be ruled out, it is generally agreed that Kim Il-song's plan boils down to preventing reunification through merger and preserving North Korea's socialism at least.

The military elite representing the first-generation revolutionaries have been enjoying all the respect in the closed North Korean society as the legendary hero, and as subordinates of that hero. In comparison, the Kim Chong-il faithfuls have achieved nothing special for themselves—except, in effect, benefitting from what their fathers did.

The time may come after some years when the tombs of the first-generation revolutionaries in the martyrs cemetery are trampled under foot for the crimes they committed against the people—and when the Kim Chong-il faithfuls are humiliated before the masses and reproach their ancestors for it.

## Burma

### Commander Says Offensive Against Karens Suspended

*BK2804141292 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Apr 92*

[Text] Major General Maung Hla, chief of forward military operations special control command, held a coordination meeting with brigade commanders at the operations meeting hall in Pa-an [capital of Karen State] on 28 April 1992. At the meeting Maj. Gen. Maung Hla said the prevailing offensive in the Karen State has been suspended in view of national unity and goodwill among the national races.

### Ne Win Called Mastermind

*BK2904084092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0737 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[By Erskine McCullough]

[Text] Bangkok, April 29 (AFP)—The Burmese military junta's sudden decision to halt its bloody war against ethnic insurgents and release political prisoners is being masterminded by the country's former ruler Ne Win, according to diplomats and political analysts.

They say the dramatic reforms announced since last week's ousting of official junta head General Saw Maung bear all the hallmarks of the 80-year-old strongman.

"It has all the marks of a Ne Win move. There is little doubt he is behind the junta's apparent about face," said one Rangoon-based diplomat contacted by telephone.

"No one is quite sure what is going on but the signs so far are good. How long the reforms continue or how genuine they are is another matter," said another diplomat.

Since the ruthless takeover by the military in 1988 that left hundreds of protesters dead, the regime swiftly became an international pariah, condemned internationally for massive human rights abuses.

Condemnation increased following the sweeping victory by the pro-democracy National League for Democracy (NLD) in the 1990 elections. The military refused to relinquish power and started rounding up and jailing the party's top leaders and supporters.

The continued house arrest of NLD leader Aung San Suu Kyi, cut off from her family, added to the pressure, along with continued reports of torture and secret trials.

A decision to try to ease the pressure on the regime from both inside the country and outside is believed to have been taken jointly by Ne Win and senior members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), the junta's official title.

"There is little doubt that the reforms announced since the removal of Saw Maung have been set up in advance. They have been extremely well orchestrated," said one diplomat.

The prisoners released do not include Aung San Suu Kyi, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize last year, but the government has said she can receive visits from her family, including her British husband, a university academic.

The junta announced late Tuesday that it had halted its current offensive against Karen rebels based in Manerplaw on the border with Thailand when it was judged to be on the verge of capturing the town.

In a special broadcast the state run radio said the attack had been suspended "in view of national unity and goodwill".

The decision to halt the fighting caught diplomats in the Burmese capital by surprise.

"It was not something we were expecting. We are not quite sure what it means," said one diplomat contacted by phone.

In addition, Rangoon and Dhaka reached agreement Tuesday on the repatriation of tens of thousands of Muslim refugees who had fled to Bangladesh, alleging atrocities by the Burmese military.

The SLORC had previously said the refugees were not Burmese.

But despite a cautious welcome for the changes from diplomats there are still strong doubts that they are little more than cosmetic moves to blunt international criticism.

"The regime has been worried by the build-up of pressure on it and genuinely fears action being taken against it in the United Nations. There are some very smart people in the SLORC and the possibility that these reforms are a short term plan to deflect criticism cannot be discounted," said one diplomat.

According to sources in Rangoon, China has quietly been exerting pressure on the junta, warning it that if it did not soften its line the U.N. Security Council could be forced to act.

China has become the country's biggest arms supplier and is virtually the only major ally the regime has.

Residents in the Burmese capital report growing optimism but continued widespead mistrust of the junta.

"The people want to believe that the regime is genuine in its new moves but they still remember that people were still being secretly arrested by military intelligence only a few weeks ago," said one resident contacted by telephone.

The parallel government of NLD members who fled to Manerplaw to escape arrest insisted late Tuesday that the SLORC is trying to fool the international community.

"The military have no intention of giving up power and allowing a democratically elected government to run Burma. There are over 2,000 political prisoners in Burma and only about 20 have been set free. The SLORC is just trying to bluff the international community," Peter Lim Bin, foreign minister of the parallel government told AFP.

"The international pressure must be kept up. I see nothing positive about these latest moves," he added.

## Parallel Government To Hold Emergency Meeting

*BK2904091492 Hong Kong AFP in English 0855 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[By Erskine McCullough]

[Text] Bangkok, April 29 (AFP)—Burma's pro-democracy parallel government is to hold an emergency meeting following the junta's decision to halt the war against Karen rebels and free political prisoners.

The meeting, to be held next month in the Karen headquarters in Manerplaw which until Tuesday's ceasefire had been under heavy attack from Burmese troops, was announced on Wednesday by the parallel government's foreign minister Peter Lim Bin.

The meeting will be attended by the groups 11-man executive committee including prime minister Sein Win, said Lim Bin. "We will be discussing the recent changes announced by the junta following last week's removal of General Saw Maung," the foreign minister told AFP in a telephone interview.

But he said he did not believe that the junta, which has come under increasing international pressure for human rights violations since it seized power in 1988, had any intention of relinquishing power.

"The regime is just trying to bluff the international community. They will continue to hold power for at least five years and then perhaps hand over power to a puppet government," Lim Bin said.

And he ruled out any possibility of talks between the junta and the parallel government in the near future.

"First of all they have to hand over power to the elected representatives of the people, reinstate the MPs [members of parliament] they disqualified after the 1990 elections and free the 2,000 political prisoners still being held," he said.

"The international pressure must be kept up on the regime and a proper trade and arms embargo introduced by the United Nations. I will continue to lobby the international community," he added.

The parallel government was set up in 1990 in Manerplaw after leading opposition MPs from the National League for Democracy, which swept the elections, were forced to flee for their lives as the Rangoon regime began a series of mass arrests of opponents.

In Rangoon on Tuesday, the junta, through the state-run WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY newspaper, made its first official comment in an editorial following the announcement of a limited amnesty of political prisoners and a time frame for the creation of a new constitution and an eventual handover of power.

The editorial said the recent changes were a practical demonstration of the regimes "goodwill" and the "correctness of its policy".

"Based on prevailing conditions in the country the State Law and Order Restoration Council (the junta's official title) is taking what it considered necessary steps in the interest of the people," said the paper.

## Eight More Political Prisoners Freed

*BK2704125692 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1150 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[From the "News in Brief" program]

[Text] U Po Aung, who was Central Executive Committee member of the Union Nationals Democracy Party; U Htein Lin, who was patron of the Youth Solidarity Front, Union of Myanmar [Burma]; U Aung Zay alias Taw Phayalay, who was patron of the National Politics Front; Dr. Maung Maung Kyaw, who was patron of the Society for International Friendship; and four youths who were personal assistants to Daw Suu Kyi; were released today.

## Rail Equipment To Be Purchased From PRC

*BK2604042892 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 Apr 92*

[Text] A contract was signed today at 1000 at the Myanmar [Burma] Railways Head Office for the purchase of rails, locomotives, coaches, and other railway equipment worth U.S.$20 million from the (Huaxia Hainan) Development Construction and Business Company and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation of the People's Republic of China.

The signing ceremony was attended by U Win Sein, minister for rail transportation; U Kyaw Myint, managing director of the Myanmar Railways; officials concerned from the Myanmar Railways; Mr. (Zan Yao Ji), commercial counselor of the PRC; Mr. (Yong Chu Wai), director of the Bureau of Machinebuilding Industry of Yunnan Province; Mr. (Ling Jai Yung), chairman of the Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation; and Mr. (Yang Fu), manager, of the (Huaxia Hainan) Development Construction and Business Company.

Managing Director U Kyaw Myint and Chairman (Ling Jai Yung) signed the contract and exchanged the instruments in the presence of the minister.

It was learned that the $20 million loan was granted interest free for three years from the (Huaxia Hainan) Development Construction and Business Company and Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation of the PRC.

## Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

## Malaysia

### Commentary Hails Support for Green Environment

*BK2704140192 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Station commentary by John Doraisamy]

[Text] This week Malaysia is playing host to delegates from more than 15 nations. They are all attending the second ministerial conference on environment and development. Basically, this is a gathering of developing countries but a few developed nations are also attending. There are also some observers from governments and international agencies.

This important event highlights Malaysia's commitment towards green and wholesome environment in the context of sustainable development. Over the weekend batches of officials had been working to prepare essential documents and draft resolutions. It is widely expected that governments concerned will manage to reach a consensus on special issues.

The Malaysian stand on universal environmental issues is often being publicized. Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed believes in global processes. There is really no need for a confrontation on this matter. The global environment concerns the entire human race, and there should be cooperation and coordination of policies. Yet there are groups within the advanced or industrial countries that have no scruples about causing confrontation. They are prepared to indulge in sensationalism rather than on a candid examination of issues.

The Penans of Sarawak state in East Malaysia had been the subject of misrepresentation. The so-called environmentalists had been spreading wrong information on the Penans. Their nomadic way of life had been voluntarily renounced by the Penan tribe in favor of settlement. They are being assisted to come into the mainstream of a modern way of life. It is regrettable that this issue is not being viewed from the proper prospective.

The delegates attending the Kuala Lumpur meeting will have a good opportunity to associate Malaysia's policies on all aspects of the environment. The Kuala Lumpur gathering is also being regarded as advanced preparations for the earth summit in Rio de Janeiro in June. What everbody wants is a definite and unanimous stand by the developing nations. In that way, at least half the delegations attending the Rio summit will speak with one voice. Some of the delegates have even suggested that Malaysia should be the single spokesman for the South nations. This view may be formally expressed when the conference proper gets under way today. Everybody is looking forward to the Kuala Lumpur declaration that will be issued at the end of the conference.

Meanwhile, the Malaysian community addressed world Forestry Day yesterday with due sovereignty and appropriate ceremony. In spite of the heavy rain in some parts of the country, people turned up to watch or to participate in tree planting. This is yet another indication of Malaysia's decency in keeping the environment green and wholesome.

### Mahathir To Attend Rio Earth Summit

*BK2904102492 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0931 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 29 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed will attend the earth summit in Rio de Janeiro from June 3 to 14, a Wisma Putra [Foreign Ministry] statement said Wednesday.

The prime minister's decision follows the adoption of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on environment and development at the second ministerial conference of developing countries which ended here today.

Dr. Mahathir said previously that he would not want to attend the summit, formally known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), if it was to be used as an occasion to smear or criticise developing countries over environmental issues.

The statement said the Kuala Lumpur Declaration "clearly articulates the concern and positions of the developing countries in addressing the subject of environment and development in an integrated, balanced, and comprehensive manner."

The Kuala Lumpur ministerial conference, it said, had provided "an important occasion and a critical stage of the preparatory process for the summit for the developing countries to exchange views and arrive at collective positions on key issues, including financial resources and technology transfer."

It added: "consistent with Malaysia's active participation through the preparatory process, the Kuala Lumpur conference underscored the need for Malaysia to confirm its role.

"Malaysia is prepared, in concert with other countries, to forge a new global partnership which safeguards the environment and promotes economic growth and development."

### Naval Dockyard To Meet Foreign Requirements

*BK2704074292 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0703 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 27 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Naval dockyard Sdn. Bhd. [Company Limited], the

privatised arm of the Lumut naval base, will set up a shipbuilding division to meet future requirements of the Royal Malaysian Navy.

Ministry of Defence Secretary-General Datuk Nasruddin Bahari told reporters monday the management was recently told to recruit more staff.

From now on, any transfer of technology involving naval vessels would go to Lumut, he added.

Nasruddin said since its privatisation early last year, the dockyard had undertaken small maintenance and repair jobs including for the Royal Australian Navy and the U.S. Navy.

"We are also anticipating work on two amphibious vessels of the U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet," he added.

The dockyard will have to involve itself in shipbuilding in future, he said, adding that the small contracts would lead to more sophisticated work that would be undertaken by the new division.

## Singapore

### Agreement on Joint Waste Control With Indonesia

*BK2304161292 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Apr 92 p 19*

[Text] Singapore and Indonesia have agreed to jointly find a way to control the movement of waste and hazardous substances between the two countries.

This was one of the measures their environment officials agreed on at the close here yesterday of the first meeting of a bilateral government committee, the Indonesia-Singapore Joint Committee on the Environment (ISJCE).

Describing the joint undertaking, an Environment Ministry statement said that the mechanism should adopt the basic principles of the Basle Convention.

Among others, the convention states that a country generating toxic waste must take it back if it is found to have been transported illegally to another country.

"Through the mechanism, both countries would also look into the disposal of sludge from tanker cleansing activities," said the statement.

The meeting, which was opened by Environment Minister Dr. Ahmad Mattar on Monday, also agreed to form a working group to:

—Develop a concept plan on the management of solid wastes for the islands of Batam, Bintan and Karimun;

—Develop public education programmes to promote environmental awareness for urban areas in Indonesia; and

—Exchange experiences to help the implementation of Indonesia's spatial planning guidelines, especially for Batam, Bintan, and Karimun.

The committee identified Jakarta's Environment Impact Management Agency and the Singapore Environment Ministry's Pollution Control Department as the two agencies which will handle environmental issues discussed and implemented by the ISJCE.

The next ISJCE meeting will be held in Indonesia in October.

### Protest Lodged to Malaysia Over Boat Intrusions

*BK2704033892 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Apr 92 p 25*

[Text] Singapore has protested to Malaysia over two intrusions into its territorial waters earlier this week by a vessel belonging to the Malaysian government.

The vessel, KP [Patrol Boat] Landok, entered the waters around Pedra Branca without permission on Tuesday and Wednesday, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs [MFA] spokesman said yesterday.

He was responding to two reports in Berita Harian Malaysia yesterday which said that patrol boats belonging to the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) chased away the vessel belonging to the Malaysian Fisheries Department.

The reports quoted sources as saying that the incident took place while KP Landok was carrying out routine patrols to ensure the safety of Malaysian fishermen fishing around Pedra Branca.

It quoted Johor state councillor Datuk Ahmad Abdullah as saying that the Johor government was unhappy over the action taken by the authorities here.

The action, he said, was not in line with an assurance given by the Singapore Government to allow Malaysian fishermen to fish around Pulau Batu Putih, the Malaysian name for Pedra Branca.

The island on which Horsburgh Lighthouse stands is 55 km away from mainland Singapore. Malaysia has claimed ownership of the island which has been administered by Singapore for more than 150 years.

In his response yesterday, the MFA spokesman made it clear that foreign fishermen, including Malaysians, were allowed to fish around Pedra Branca.

"However, foreign government vessels, unless on innocent passage, must obtain permission to enter Singapore territorial waters," he added.

KP Landok, he noted, was "not on innocent passage". It entered Singapore territorial waters at 11 a.m. on Tuesday [21 Apr] and moored itself to a buoy 500 metres away from Pedra Branca.

At 5 p.m. on the same day, the RSS Swift Cavalier, an RSN patrol craft, instructed the vessel to leave Singapore waters.

KP Landok complied with the instructions and left after circling Pedra Branca once.

But it returned at 11.20 a.m. the next day and positioned itself within two km of Pedra Branca, the spokesman said.

At 1 p.m., an RSN patrol craft, RSS Swift Knight, asked KP Landok to leave. But the vessel refused to comply with the instructions.

"KP Landok eventually left Singapore territorial waters at about 4.30 p.m. the same day," the spokesman said.

"The Singapore Government has protested to the Malaysian Government over these intrusions by a Malaysian Government vessel into Singapore territorial waters."

## Cambodia

### Ranariddh Remark at 20 Apr SNC Meeting Cited

*BK2704125592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 26 Apr 92*

[Text] At the meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] on 20 April at Khemarin Palace under the lofty chairmanship of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian SNC, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia party, or FUNCINPEC, said that the question to ask about elections is: When can the elections be freely and fairly held? Elections can be held only when there is a neutral political atmosphere first.

The prince added that in order to have a neutral political atmosphere, foreign forces should be withdrawn from Cambodia and Cambodian parties' troops dissolved; and the SNC should genuinely play its role as the sole source of power in Cambodia.

### Factions' Refusal To Show Minefields Viewed

*BK2904064292 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0400 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 29—The Phnom Penh government's Army and the Khmer Rouge are both stubbornly refusing to mark their minefields and challenging the other to be the first to do so, AFP [Agence France-Press] quoted UNTAC's [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] head of demining as saying Tuesday [28 April].

The two factions are "blaming one another for not marking their own minefields because they believe they require them tactically," said Colonel Alan Beaver, the New Zealander in charge of the UNTAC demining program.

Fighting is still occurring intermittently in the central province of Kompong Thom, he said, and the factions want to wait until all disputes are resolved before giving away their mined positions.

"This is clearly in breach of their own agreement" ending the Cambodian civil war, Beaver said. "What we're doing about it is raising it frequently at the SNC (Supreme National Council) level with Prince Sihanouk... and we believe we're making progress."

UNTAC needs the thousands of minefields in Cambodia—laid during two decades of war—to be clearly visible in order for its 21,000 military and civilian personnel and the 370,000 returning Cambodian refugees to know where not to tread.

UNTAC has started distributing thousands of bright red signs for villagers and factions to post in the most dangerous areas.

Up until three weeks ago, mines were still being laid in Kompong Thom on disputed Route 12 leading north through Preah Vihear [province] to Thailand.

The road had been the scene of heavy fighting since January, UN officials have said.

"We believe it (mining) has ceased, but we need to verify that," Beaver said.

The total number of mines lying hidden in Cambodian countryside is unknown, but guesstimates range up to four million.

The private demining firm, the HALO [Harzadous Areas Life-Support Organization] Trust, which is contracted by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to clear land needed for those returning from refugees camps in Thailand, has only removed 70 to 80 mines from 600 square meters of road, Beaver said.

A demining and road-clearing battalion from Thailand has removed about 400 mines and unexploded ordinance, he said.

So far, mines from China, Czechoslovakia, Vietnam, the former Soviet Union, the United States and France have been dug up, he said.

A battalion of 400 engineers from the Chinese People's Liberation Army have been put to work repairing Route 6 leading from the capital to Kompong Thom. They will also be working to reopen several airfields around the countries to allow UNTAC to fly in supplies, and rebuilding bridges south of the capital.

"They will be engaged in mine clearance relative to that task," Beaver said.

Beaver is also directing the training of Cambodians in mine-clearing techniques. Sixty people, mostly former soldiers, are now working in demining being paid 70 dollars a month plus room and board, he said.

UNTAC hopes to train 5,000 people by the end of the year. With the exception of HALO Trust and the Thai battalion, foreign forces are not involved in demining Cambodia.

"It's a Cambodian problem, created by Cambodians and it must be solved by Cambodians," he said.

### Kompong Thom Prepares for 500 Families' Return

*BK2404154892 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1106 GMT 24 Apr 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 24—The northeastern province of Kompong Thom is preparing facilities for 500 families of refugees who will return from Cambodian-Thai border camps. The preparedness being carried out in the districts of Kompong Svay and Prasat Balang include dwelling houses, wells, schools, dispensaries, and grounds for farm work, according to the Committee for Refugees' Reception.

Kompong Thom, it says, was subjected to receive 1,500 families of returnees, in which 350 families would be sent there for the first phase of the repatriation program.

Besides, the province housed 14,635 people displaced by heavy fightings between the Khmer Rouge and the government troops in the province. The displaced resettled down in the communes of Kompong Svay, Stoung, and Prasat Sambo with the assistance of the provincial Red Cross and other international organisations.

## Indonesia

### Dutch Trade Minister Welcomes 'New Era' Ties

*BK2704142492 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] Netherlands Minister of Agriculture and Fishery Piet Bukman has welcomed the arrival of a new era of bilateral economic and trade cooperation without the Netherland's economic assistance program. Speaking to reporters after he met with Trade Minister Arifin Siregar in the Hague on Saturday, Piet Bukman said his talks with the Indonesian minister were focused on exploring potential cooperation in agriculture aimed at strengthening bilateral relations.

He noted that bilateral relations in agriculture could still be enhanced not only in production, but also in distribution, processing of products, and marketing in European and Southeast Asian countries. Bukman also stressed the need to intensify cooperation between the private sector of the two countries because it is considered more important than the official business link.

### Dailies View Ties, Aid Ban

*BK2804034892 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[From the press review]

[Text] KOMPAS endorses the government's decision to ban social organizations and nongovernmental organizations from receiving financial aid from the Netherlands. This is closely related to an earlier move by the government to stop accepting economic aid from that country. However, to cope with the times, especially in this era of globalization, the government must also turn its citizens into well informed [two preceding words in English] people so they would be able to counter any political threat that comes under the guise of economic aid programs.

In this connection, ANGKATAN BERSENJATA describes as successful the current mission to the Netherlands by Trade Minister Arifin Siregar. This can be seen from the warm welcome extended by the hosts including the Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, who has also called for closer ties, as the Indonesian Government has only rejected Dutch economic aid programs. With that successful trip, ANGKATAN BERSENJATA believes Indonesia has succeeded in expanding bilateral relations with the Dutch in various fields and has turned Netherlands into its traditional and major trade partner in Europe.

### Government Urged To Open Court for Dili Incident

*BK2704122992 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 13 Apr 92 p 10*

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—Lawyers defending an East Timorese who is being tried in connection with the Nov 12 riot in Dili urged the government to court martial army officiers involved in the shooting deaths of demonstrators.

"The trials for civilians have been going on for some time now. Many people have started to ask when the officers involved in the tragedy will stand trial," Luhut MP Pangaribuan, of the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (LBH), said Saturday.

The defense team involves LBH and the Indonesian Bar Association (Ikadin).

Around 50 people were killed when demonstrators clashed with troops in Dili on Nov. 12 last year.

Thirteen students and former civil servants are currently on trial in Jakarta and Dili courts in connection with the riot and a subsequent anti-government protest in Jakarta. Four are facing subversion charges, which carry a maximum death penalty, while the rest are being tried for publicly opposing the government.

"The government's decision to form the Military Honorary Council is wonderful and the people really appreciate this. they hope the council will send the offenders to the military tribunal soon," Pangaribuan told THE JAKARTA POST.

He also called for the military tribunal to open the hearings to the public.

Frans Hendra Winata, a lawyer from Ikadin, told the POST on a different occasion that the army officers

allegedly involved in the shootings must be immediately sent to court for the sake of the rule of law.

He also urged the Military Honorary Council to publicly name the officers responsible for the killings and clearly explain what actions had been taken against them.

"Everything must be made transparent. People need to know what actions the government have taken against the offenders," Frans said.

The right to information is one of the human rights, he said.

Army Chief of Staff General Edi Sudrajad announced late in February that following the findings of the military council, he had taken disciplinary measures against six senior officers and would court martial eight soldiers.

He did not identify the soldiers, but said they were four junior officers (one of them was a company chief), three non-commissioned officers and one private.

The 25-member military council was set up in January to find out what went wrong in the military chain of command that led to the killings of the demonstrators.

### Commission Presents Final Report

*BK2704152792 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 14 Apr 92 p 1*

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The National Investigation Commission (KPN) presented its final and complete reports about the November 12 tragedy in Dili to Minister/State Secretary Murdiono yesterday.

Murdiono told reporters after receiving the reports that he could not disclose their contents because he would have to deliver them to President Suharto before any announcement was [made].

"The handing over of the final and complete reports marks the end of our task of investigating the November 12 incident," Supreme Court Justice M. Jaelani, the chairman of the seven-member commission, said.

The reports presented to Murdiono consisted of a 45-page book, two large bags of documentary photos and three smaller bags of written documents, video cassettes and audio tapes recording interviews conducted by the commission members in East Timor.

The commission set up by a presidential decree to thoroughly, impartially and objectively investigate the tragedy, worked for a month, including 17 days in Dili, before submitting its preliminary reports to Suharto on Dec. 26, 1992.

According to the preliminary reports, around 50 people were killed and more than 91 others injured in the incident preceded by a "kind of prologue" initiated by the activities of those opposing the integration of East Timor with Indonesia and of the former Fretilin separatist group.

When announcing the preliminary reports, Jaelani said that a number of troops overreacted and went beyond their superior's commands when they, in self-defense, started shooting at demonstrators who had been provoked into disorderliness by members of Fretilin.

The commission also found that the troops failed to use anti-riot techniques maximally in handling the angry mob. Overreaction by a group of troops claimed a number of victims, who died of gunshot wounds, or were injured, with some possibly being stabbed, or beaten with the butts of rifles.

However, the commission arrived at the conclusion that the incident did not take place because of the orders or policy of the central government, the provincial administration or the military command.

Soon after the announcement, the President appointed a Military Honorary Council, which then took disciplinary measures against six military officers and planned to bring eight others to martial court.

Jaelani said yesterday that whether the final reports would be made public would be up to Suharto.

Murdiono said the reports would surely be given to all parties concerned. "All the documentary recordings will be put in the National Archives."

He said Suharto expressed his gratitude to the KPN members, all of whom he said had done their tasks seriously.

Besides Jaelani, the KPN included Clementino des Reis Amaral, an East Timorese legislator from the ruling Golkar [Functional] group; Ben Maung Reng Say, a member of the Supreme Advisory Council; Harisugiman, the director general for social and political affairs of the Ministry of Home Affairs; Hadi Wayarabi, the director for international organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Anton Sujata, the inspector general of the Ministry of Justice; and Rear Admiral Sumitro, the inspector general of the Armed Forces (ABRI).

## Laos

### President Interviewed on Opinion of DPRK Visit

*SK2804110192 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 28 Apr 92*

["Lao President Answers Questions Put by KCNA"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, who paid an official goodwill visit to Korea upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, gave written

answers to questions put by a KCNA [Korean Central News Agency] reporter on April 26.

Kaysone Phomvihane said what impressed him most during his participation in the celebrations of the 80th birthday of Comrade President Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people, and the 60th founding anniversary of the heroic Korean People's Army, was the unfailing loyalty and deep reverence of the whole party, the whole country, and the entire people of Korea for Comrade President Kim Il-song who has performed undying feats for the country and the people in the struggle for the independence of the nation, the freedom, and the happiness of the Korean people, and the prosperity and development of socialist Korea with his outstanding and tested leadership for more than half a century.

He said he gained better understanding of the great pride and self-confidence of the Korean people in the great victory and success won in the arduous struggle, the unshakable determination of the entire Korean people to carry forward the glorious revolutionary traditions established by their party, nation and Army and the endeavours of the Korean people to achieve constant progress in the cause of socialism and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country under the rays of the chuche idea.

Citing concrete facts, the Lao president noted that Korea has made a rapid progress in the economy, science and technology, culture and all other fields with the active promotion of the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions.

He said that while visiting grand edifices created by the united strength and creative ingenuity of the masses, he could confirm at first hand the wise guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader, and Comrade Kim Chong-il, the dear leader.

Korea where the leader, the party and the masses are united in one mind and purpose has achieved a great progress and successes which deserve the world people's admiration, Kaysone Phomvihan said, stressing that socialist Korea has turned into a powerful country with defence capabilities equipped with modern, sophisticated military science and technology, an army armed with latest types of weapons and ever-modernised economy, science and technology and a cultural life of high standard.

Comrade Kim Il-song established revolutionary bases with the Mt. Paektu area in Korea as the centre, fought the Japanese imperialists with arms in hand and victoriously led the anti-Japanese armed struggle, he said.

He said the friendly relations between Laos and Korea have been daily strengthened and developed since he visited Korea for the first time and met with Comrade Kim Il-song in 1965 and that he would develop the cooperative relations between the two countries on to a new, higher stage.

He expressed the belief that the fraternal Korean people under the wise guidance of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader, will achieve greater success in the struggle to defend the motherland and build socialism and will certainly realise their ardent desire for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

### Thongsing Thammavong Leaves for Thailand 28 Apr

*BK2904031492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, Thongsing Thammavong, vice chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] and head of the Committee for Upgrading Organizational and Administrative Apparati of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], and his entourage left Vientiane for Bangkok on a visit to the Kingdom of Thailand.

During the visit, Thongsing and his entourage will meet and discuss with Thai sectors concerned in order to draw lessons from past experiences on the issue of organizational improvement, as well as the administrative issue of the two countries.

At the same time, the Lao delegation will also hold consultations with the Thai counterpart on the strengthening of the relations of friendship, cooperation, and good neighborliness between the two countries.

Thongsing and his entourage were seen off by Somlat Chanthamat, chief of the Propaganda and Training Board of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]; chairmen of SPA committees and SPA members; and a number of high-level officials concerned.

## Philippines

### Advance Naval Contingent To Leave for Cambodia

*HK2904034792 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 29 Apr 92 p 12*

[Text] A 25-member advance party of the naval and marine contingent, which will join the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), is set to depart this Friday.

In an interview during the inspection of the 99-man military contingent yesterday, contingent head Navy Lt Comdr Reynaldo Basilio detailed the primary duties during their nine-month tour of duty as military observers and as part of the security force supervising the demobilization of 70% of Cambodia's naval force.

The members of the military contingent include six naval officers, ten sailors, two Marine officers and 82 Marine troopers.

#### Additional Forces

As this developed, the defense department approved the deployment of an additional 10 officers and five enlisted personnel to join the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia.

The contingent will be deployed in the southern portion, "far from where fighting among the four warring factions still rage," Mr Basilio said.

## Multinational Firms Establish Venture Fund

*HK2804023592 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 28 Apr 92 p 1*

[By Genevieve I. Soledad]

[Text] Businessmen from the United States, Japan and the Philippines have joined hands in putting up a venture capital fund geared towards the infusion of equity in small- and medium-scale agro-industrial enterprises.

The fund, termed the Philippine Agro-Industrial Fund (PAIF), was launched yesterday by the Bankers Association of the Philippines and the Makati Business Club (MBC), together with their Japanese and American partners during formal signing ceremonies held at the Manila Hotel.

U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner observed during his closing speech that the private sector initiative was an expression of faith between three nations which used to be at war close to five decades ago.

Thomas Gibson, president of the CARE [expansion unknown] Small Business Assistance Corp, pointed out that "PAIF will be the first U.S.-Japanese collaboration of this kind."

The fund will have an initial target capital base of $5 million to be raised over a period of three years with the Japanese and U.S. partners doling out $2 million each and their Philippine counterparts providing the balance of $1 million.

PAIF's funding assistance will be directed mostly towards equity investments in agro-industrial businesses with assets amounting to a maximum of $20 million.

Guillermo Luz, MBC executive director, explained that the PAIF will be used to purchase 20-30% of the agribusiness firm's total equity. The PAIF will be able to accommodate an estimated 10 to 20 packages.

Mr Luz estimated that the PAIF will have a pullout period of three to ten years during which time, the agribusiness firms will be expected to buy out PAIF's shares at a premium.

He clarified that although the foundation tasked to implement the PAIF will be keeping a close eye on a firm's project to ensure profits, the foundation does not aim to take control of the company itself. "Although, we are willing to share the risks, we do not want majority control of the company," Mr Luz asserted.

Bernardo Villegas, senior vice-president of the Center for Research and Communication (CRC) and a member of the PAIF's international advisory council opined that the PAIF will likely pay close watch on business engaged in carrageenin, prawns and cut flowers in the field of non-traditional commodities for the exports market, while banana catsup and sauces are likely commodities for processed agricultural products targeted for the domestic market.

## Book Details Kickbacks for Japanese Aid

*OW2804084792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0820 GMT 28 Apr 92*

[Text] Manila, April 28 (KYODO)—A new book published in the Philippines details how Japanese firms paid kickbacks to former President Ferdinand Marcos and received huge consultancy fees in connection with official development assistance (ODA) from Japan.

In a press conference Tuesday for the release of **Japan, Inc. in Asia,** the book's editors questioned the lack of attention and sustained effort on the part of President Corazon Aquino's government to investigate the irregularities.

Prof. Amado Mendoza, who wrote guides to five sets of government documents published in the book, asked the reporters to use the book as a guide to further investigation on the issue.

Japanese professors Mamoru Tsuda, from the Osaka University of Foreign Studies, and Masaki Yokoyama from Shikoku Gakuin University edited the book.

They said "Japan, Inc." is a term used to describe the system of Japanese industries and the government bureaucracy coordinating as a single corporation in dealing with the outside world.

Among documents published in the book was the testimony of former Public Highways Minister Baltazar Aquino, who is not related to President Aquino. He testified before an antigraft court in 1989 where he gave details of his activities as a bagman for former Philippine First Lady Imelda Marcos.

Baltazar Aquino said that in 1975, he was ordered to go to Hong Kong where an officer of Sakai Heavy Industries Ltd., Japan's major road-paving machinery maker, gave him 700,000 dollars to be deposited in a Swiss bank account for the late Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos.

He claims that he received a considerable amount of cash from Japanese firms in the same manner on many other occasions, all which was deposited in Marcos's account. The former public highway minister said he gave receipts of the deposits to the late president in person.

Besides Sakai, the former minister said he received kickbacks from four other Japanese trading companies—Toyo Corp., Nissho Iwai Corp., Sumitomo Corp., and Mitsui and Co. He said the money, which was described as voluntary donations, was given in relation to a yen loan package and war reparation funds from Japan.

The book's researchers pointed out that these aid funds and loan payments come from the taxes of both the

Japanese and Filipino people, and for that reason it is important to monitor where the money goes.

In another set of documents published in the book, Sen. Teofisto Guingona said ODA contracts included the hiring of Japanese consultants who received up to 350,000 pesos per month while their Filipino counterparts got only 67,000 pesos. A total of 24 Japanese consulting firms got 15 billion yen out of ODA contracts, Guingona charged.

"We are being cooked in our own lard because we are being compelled to borrow and yet use only 50 per cent of the loan," the book quotes one of the senators who attended Guingona's hearings on foreign consultants as saying, "because we have to pay these foreign consultants extravagant and excessive fees, on top of payment for principal amounts of the loans, and interest."

Guingona has expressed concern that some of the questionable deals during the Marcos regime were being continued under the Aquino government.

He cited the case of Mitsui, which was awarded the contract for the construction of the controversial Calaca I Coal Thermal Project, which has been widely criticized for pollution. Guingona questioned why the Philippine Government shouldered the expenses for the plant's defects, and why Mitsui was still allowed to bid for Calaca II, despite its poor record.

## Malacanang To Abolish Import Levy by 1 May

*HK2704083392 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 27 Apr 92 p 1*

[By Leticia P. Perez]

[Text] Malacanang is set to lift on May 1, Labor Day, the remaining 5% import levy despite Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao's announcement that it would continue to be in force at least until June 30 this year.

Sources said the Malacanang plan to abolish the levy entirely on May 1 is meant to provide some form of support for labor, which has been adversely affected—in terms of layoffs and stagnant salary scales—by the import tax.

Exporters said the garments sector alone had reduced its work force by 30% because of increased import costs due to the levy.

Early this month, the Confederation of Philippine Exporters Foundation (Copef) expressed the fear that its members could lose as much as 50% of their markets to foreign competiors if no levy adjustment was made.

The government, in an agreement with the International Monetary Fund, imposed a 9% levy in January last year, but was forced to slash it to 5% because of a slowdown in imports.

The levy was supposed to raise more tax revenues for the government, but an ensuing slowdown in imports, because of the additional cost, failed to bring in the desired revenues.

The slowdown in imports, which resulted in a weak demand for foreign exchange, raised the value of the peso against the dollar to the vicinity of P25 [Philippine pesos] to a dollar.

Estanislao said, however, that while the levy makes importation costlier because of the additional 5% tax, it has also made the dollar cheaper.

Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia Jr., who used to defend the levy, made a turnabout last week, saying it was obstructing economic expansion.

Cuisia said total export receipts in the first quarter grew by a mere 4.8%, to $2.1 billion, while imports narrowed by 2.4%, to $3 billion.

A bank economist, however, said the import levy is only one factor in the equation. Businessmen are holding off expansion and investments until after the elections.

Estanislao, nonetheless, insisted yesterday on keeping the levy as he announced that the Bureau of Customs had exceeded collections by P715 million, to P19.91 billion, in the first three months of the year.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue, he added, increased collection by P2.7 billion, to P31.37 billion.

Estanislao said the levy must be retained, "especially now that we have to provide P3 billion this year to rehabilitate the Central Bank."

## Cardinal Sin Views Candidate Selection Criteria

*HK2904031692 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in Tagalog 29 Apr 92 pp 1, 8*

[By Maria Rita Sofia Raagas]

[Text] If, after all the guidelines he has crafted on how to choose the country's next leaders, voters still can't make a decision, they can "come to me and request me to make the decision for you and I will," Jaime Cardinal L. Sin said at the open forum of the Rotary Club of New Manila East's general meeting yesterday.

The Archdiocese of Manila's eight-point guidelines on choosing the country's next leaders were issued "precisely to avoid the possibility of a plurality winner in the elections," Cardinal Sin said. Winning by a mere plurality is to be avoided as it goes with the perception that the winner was not the choice of the majority of the voters and therefore does not have a strong mandate to rule.

The guidelines, contained in the much-publicized homily the influential prelate made last Friday at the Christ the King Church in Quezon City, was aimed at guiding the still-undecided voters.

The cardinal believes the church has successfully narrowed down the list from which people are to choose the country's next president. This narrowing down has been done through the process of elimination and without naming names.

Critics believe the next president will win merely by a plurality of votes. Since there are seven hopefuls, the winner cannot possibly get more than 25% of the total votes cast on election day, they say.

But the cardinal disagrees. "Filipinos are not stupid. There will be a majority President," he said, "...unless you are stupid enough to go on pushing your candidate even if you know he is not qualified."

**Potshots**

Cardinal Sin again took potshots at a couple of presidential hopefuls. "Imagine what will happen if we have an insane President. What will happen if we have a greedy president?" he asked in a serious tone. When laughter greeted the questions, he said, chuckling this time, "I am not naming names, though."

Critics have called the controversial church official's pronouncements on the coming elections "divisive and meddlesome." He dismisses such allegations. "I am after the selection of the right president because the vision of this man is very imporant. He will lead the country," he said.

"The next president should be like a conductor who can bring the country into harmony," he said.

A Rotarian asked the cardinal if his reference to the next president as a "man" had any significance. "When I say man, I also mean woman," he said. "But this is my opinion and you don't have to believe me. I think that God created man and gave him the gift of leadership."

**Violence**

In his speech before the Rotarians, Cardinal Sin expressed concern over the recent spate of election-related violence.

"The free election of even the most repulsive of our candidates is better than the preemption of the people's sovereign will through the barrel of a gun," the cardinal said.

(The murder of Rogelio Maramba, Lakas-NUCD's [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue Strength—National Union of Christian Democrats] congressional candidate in Cagayan, brings to 25 the total number of election-related deaths so far.)

The cardinal condemned activities of the so-called private armies: "There is no room for the intervention of private armies, bands of armed goons, who would seek again by the terror of guns to impose the will of some upon the will of all."

In this light, he appealed to the Commission on Elections, the deputized Armed Forces and the Philippine National Police "to defend the people's ballot against the guns of illegitimate armies."

## Government To File New Charges Against Cojuangco

*HK2404021492 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 23 Apr 92*

[Text] The government will file new criminal and civil charges against presidential candidate Eduardo Cojuangco. The Philippine Commission on Good Government [PCGG] says this involves a case in which Cojuangco obtained 16,000 hectares of public lands in Palawan and Agusan del Sur. PCGG Commissioner Cesar del Rosario says Cojuangco obtained large pieces of land from the Marcos government in exchange for 1,600 hectares of his private land in Luzon.

The Cojuangco camp has denied the accusations, declaring that land-swapping does not violate Philippine laws.

## Army Chief Refuses To Sign Peace Covenant

*HK2904062392 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Lisandro Abadia has refused to sign a peace covenant with the Reform the Armed Forces [RAM] and the Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance. The accord was first drafted and publicized by General Edgardo Abenina, General Comendador, and General Blando. Abadia said it is not necessary to sign such an accord, but he hopes the rebel soldiers will abide by their pledge to preserve the peace. Included in the terms of the accord are a pledge that there would be no coup attempts against the government during the election campaign. Abadia added that the rebel soldiers are so fragmented, there is no assurance that RAM would be able to honor Abenina's promises.

## Police Mobilize To Neutralize Communist Rebels

*HK2904030792 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 Apr 92 p 8*

[By Jerry Lacuarta]

[Text] San Fernando, Pampanga—Police operatives in Central Luzon launched yesterday regionwide combat operations to neutralize the New People's Army (NPA) rebels and members of other armed groups who are reportedly planning to disrupt the holding of the May 11 elections.

Chief Superintendent Pantaleon Dumlao Jr., Central Luzon Philippine National Police (PNP) director, said that the combat operations are being launched in at least 18 towns where large NPA bands are still operating.

Dumlao directed the regional special mobile forces to assist the PNP provincial and the metropolitan district commands in the operations.

Intelligence reports said that the political "hot spots" in Central Luzon are Angeles City, Guagua, Mabalacat,

Porac, Mexico, and Arayat, all in Pampanga; Sta. Cruz in Zambales; Caranglan, Pantabangan, San Jose City, Gen. Natividad, and Bongabon in Nueva Ecija; Ramos in Tarlac; and Dona Remedios Trinidad, Malolos, Paombong, San Ildefonso, and San Miguel in Bulacan.

Chief Inspector Sukarno Ikbala, Central Luzon PNP operations chief, said that San Luis, Pampanga, had earlier been considered as a "hot spot" but it was cleared later after the police killed an NPA commander operating in that town.

Ikbala said that a municipality or city could be classified as a hot spot because of the presence of the NPA rebels, or rightist armed men, or the members of the old Hukbo ng Magpapalaya sa Bayan (HMB) [People's Anti-Japanese Army]. He said that intense political rivalries also contributed to the instability of the communities.

## Crackdown on Suspected Military Coup Supporters

*HK2904024292 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 29 Apr 92 pp 1, 9*

[By Fe B. Zamora]

[Text] Two more lieutenants were arrested during the week as the military high command intensified its crackdown on troops suspected of plotting a coup, the INQUIRER learned yesterday.

The shadowy Young Officers Union (YOU), in a clandestine interview, said the arrest was part of a "witchhunt" launched by Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, as "smokescreen for another scenario."

"We will only make a move as a last resort. But General Abadia is creating a scenario to provoke us. We are being used as smokescreen for his own scenario," said a captain in the active service who requested anonymity.

The YOU member identified those arrested as Lieutenants Joey Sarroza and Orlando Caballegan, both of the Air Force.

There was no official confirmation by the military on the reported arrests.

Caballegan was reportedly picked up last week in Mactan Air Base where he was assigned and brought to the AFP Custodial Center in Fort Bonifacio for detention.

A suspect in the December 1989, coup attempt, Sarroza was released from detention last October at the height of the peace talks between Abadia and the rebel military. He was picked up yesterday, the YOU source said.

On April 8, Lieutenants Hernando Caraig and Vicente Tomas were also arrested by the AFP Counter-Intelligence Command (AFPCIC) on suspicion they were holding "secret meetings" and recruiting troops for another coup attempt.

The YOU, however, denied these. "We don't have to recruit... the troops are in place. But we will move only as a last resort, and if the people want us to move," the captain said.

Caraig and Tomas, who were in full military uniform, were arrested on Anonas street in Quezon City by AFPCIC agents in full-combat gear.

Like Sarroza, Caraig and Tomas were released last October during the peace negotiations between cashiered Lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan and Abadia.

Following the arrests, detained military rebels were also moved from one camp to another under heavy security, the YOU source said.

He said Col. Toto Bernarte, Capt. Bong Amon and Capt. Gil Nacino were transferred from Villamor Air Base to Fort Bonifacio escorted by two V-150s and one helicopter gunship.

The three officers were detained in connection with their participation in the failed December 1989 coup attempt.

## Elections Body Cancels Local Poll Postponements

*HK2904035492 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 29 Apr 92 pp 1, 2*

[By Danilo P. Lucas]

[Text] Local elections in places under the direct supervision of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) will no longer be postponed but "sufficient augmentation troops" in these areas will be deployed to ensure the conduct of credible and orderly polls.

This was the general consensus reached during the signing of a "formal and solemn" peace covenant among political leaders in areas where atrocities and irregularities are feared during the synchronized national and local elections on May 11.

The signing of the covenant sponsored by the poll body and attended by military commanders, prompted political leaders to adopt several peace measures, notably the dismantling of private armies being maintained by these politicians.

"Between now and May 11, the political leaders agreed that no more armed groups would be going around for whatever reasons," Commissioner Haydee B. Yorac told reporters, immediately after the Comelec meeting with political leaders in Lanao del Sur.

The signing of the peace pact among Lanao del Sur politicians was part of the three-day signing rites being sponsored by the Comelec. Last Monday, political leaders from Oriental Mindoro were at the signing. Yesterday morning, Maguindanao political leaders attended the meeting, while as of press time, a meeting followed by the eventual signing of the covenant among politicians of Tawi-Tawi was ongoing.

Yorac said political leaders in Nueva Ecija, Oriental Mindoro, Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur and initially Tawi-Tawi agreed to "observe the rules of elections, especially the use of firearms and bodyguards."

Also contained in the covenant signed by all political kingpins in their respective areas was the possible sanction of summary proceeding against any candidate whose supporters or followers would be found instituting harassment, intimidation, irregularities and other election-related illegal activities.

The Comelec also stood pat in maintaining the status quo in areas declared under its control despite the signing of the covenant.

But the Comelec declared the holding of local polls in these areas, reneging on its earlier position of postponing local elections.

However, the Comelec, upon the recommendation of the military commanders, agreed to deploy substantial augmentation troops in areas under its control for the purpose of "intensifying check points and for more visibility."

For instance, Brigadier General Guillermo Ruiz, Philippine Marine commander for Basilan, Tawi-Tawi and Sulu, told reporters that three more battalions consisting of more or less 2,000 men would be deployed in the three provinces.

The two army battalions and a Marine battalion would augment the existing two Marine brigades, composed of 5,600 men in Sulu, Basilan and Tawi-Tawi.

Ruiz believed that the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) could cheat, but the Muslim secessionist group had no sufficient firearms and ammunitions to effect any destabilizing move during the election period. There are approximately 6,500 MNLF men in Mindanao but they only have some 3,000 firearms.

In Maguindanao, another Marine battalion would be dispatched to help the existing military forces in the province.

Brigadier General Meliton Tiburcio, Philippine National Police (PNP) regional director for the Autonomous Region of Maguindanao (ARM), said the additional troops were deployed not because of the "wrongdoings" of the political leaders in the province but because of the loose firearms being maintained by the MNLF, Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MNLF) and the New People's Army (NPA).

But yesterday's signing of the covenant among political kingpins in Maguindanao was attended only by leaders of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Filipino Democrats] (LDP) headed by ARM Governor Zacarias Candao.

Also yesterday, the Comelec passed two resolutions which were discussed in the Lanao del Sur meeting.

The first resolution grounded all paramilitary units in Lanao del Sur and the other 15 towns of the province placed under the Comelec "watchlist areas."

Yorac said the grounding of all paramilitary units in Lanao del Sur was passed after a "number of written complaints" reached her office allegedly accusing these groups of taking partisan positions.

Military and police commanders present during the meeting said the grounding of all paramilitary units in Lanao del Sur would not affect the security status in the province.

## Air Base Security 'Strict' After Dynamite Found

*HK2904033292 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 29 Apr 92 p 12*

[Text] The Villamor Air Base, headquarters of the Philippine Air Force, will remain under "strict security measure" until June 30.

The move was implemented after the air force security command was able to discover 36 sticks of dynamite hidden in an army jeepney parked inside the camp last Holy Week.

In a post-conference interview yesterday, Air Force commanding general Loven Abadia told BUSINESS WORLD no one was yet apprehended for the incident.

However, he stressed the camp is not and has never been placed under a "red alert" or maximum security status, even at the height of the coup rumor.

Maj. General Abadia also revealed that aside from Army Lts. Vicente Tomas and Hernado Caraig, two Air force junior officers, known only as Lt. Sarroza and Lt. Cabelligan, were rearrested last Easter Sunday for allegedly recruiting some air force officers and enlisted personnel to the rightist movement.

The junior officers were part of the at least 100 officers who were detained due to their involvement in previous coup attempts but were given a "custody" status under the reconciliation program of Armed Forces chief of staff Lisandro Abadia last year.

At present, the Air Force is still looking into the circumstances of "how the dynamites were able to get into the compound."

The army jeep was one of the vehicles used to transfer the rightist detainees from the Air Force detention center to the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Custodial Center inside adjacent Fort Bonifacio.

"As a security measure, we are conducting random inspection on all incoming vehicles," Maj. Gen. Abadia added.

## Thailand

### Deputy Minister on U.S. Trade Retaliation

*BK2804111192 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 28 Apr 92*

[Text] Deputy Commerce Minister Samphan Loetnuwat spoke to newsmen at Government House that the United States could declare Thailand a priority first country for trade retaliation per Article 301. He said the United States must have taken into account what damages Thailand has done to it. Efforts should be made to correct the trend if there is any damage done. Anyway, if Thailand thinks it has done the right thing, Thailand should try to negotiate with the United States. The deputy commerce minister said that he hoped Thailand would not face a strong retaliation from the United States as Thailand is a small country. Thailand has always resorted to compromise. He said the commerce minister had assigned Deputy Commerce Minister M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun to oversee foreign trade, so he believed there should be no problem about it.

### Sombat, SRV's Le Mai Discuss Mekong Committee

*BK2404160292 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 24 Apr 92*

[Text] Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Le Mai called on Thailand's Deputy Foreign Minister Sombat Sisurin at the Foreign Ministry today to offer congratulations on the new government in Thailand. The Vietnamese minister said Vietnam wants to pursue cooperation under the Mekong River Basin development program. He noted a common desire by Thailand and Vietnam to achieve regional development and settle conflicts through negotiations. He said the working teams of each country will pursue cooperative projects. Vietnam also indicated its intention to participate in the next meeting of the Mekong Committee.

Minister Le Mai stopped over in Thailand on his way back to Vietnam after attending a seminar in Bali, Indonesia. He returned to Vietnam today after the stopover.

### Diplomatic Relations Established With Estonia

*BK2804091492 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 27 Apr 92*

["Announcement on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of Estonia"—read by announcer]

[Text] Being desirous of promoting friendly relations as well as mutually beneficial ties between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of Estonia, the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the Republic of Estonia have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the embassy level as from 27 April 1992, and to exchange diplomatic representatives at the ambassadorial level.

[Signed] General Suchinda Khraprayun, prime minister of Thailand.

### Regime Vows To Continue Economic Liberalization

*BK2904050192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 92 p A1*

[Excerpt] The Suchinda government will continue the Anan administration's policy of liberalizing the economy but will attach special importance to developing the agricultural sector and tackling rural poverty, Deputy Prime Minister [PM] Michai Ruchuphan said yesterday.

The rural development strategy, which was drawn up by the prime minister's Secretary General Khosit Panpiamrat, had been thoroughly scrutinized by Cabinet members from the coalition political parties, particularly Samakkhi Tham, informed sources said.

"There are more changes to this policy area than any others," said one source who asked not to be named.

The previous government, led by Anan Panyarachun, put much of its effort into reforming the business and industrial sectors but the new government will shift emphasis to the rural and agricultural sectors, said Michai, who chaired a meeting yesterday of a Cabinet-appointed working group to rewrite a draft policy statement.

Drawn up by Prime Minister Gen Suchinda Khraprayun's economic advisers, the draft policy statement had been distributed to Cabinet members for their comments before it was formally taken up for revision by the Cabinet and the working group of key ministers yesterday.

Michai said the working group went through the revised draft which should be ready for printing today so it can be submitted to Parliament for distribution to MPs. The government is scheduled to deliver its policy statement on May 6.

Rural development, including restructuring of agricultural production, occupied a prominent place in the policy statement, Michai said.

Commerce Minister Dr Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri wanted to include in the draft policy statement his target of increasing the country's exports this year, the deputy premier said.

Michai did not provide any details of the policy statement.

The draft, which was the basis for discussion at yesterday's meeting, contains 13 sections dealing with the following areas: political policy, administrative and legal reforms policy, development decentralization and creation of jobs to narrow social disparities, natural resources and environment conservation, agricultural development, overall economic policy, national defence, social affairs, education, public health, labour, foreign affairs, and science and technology affairs.

Decentralization of wealth and agricultural development stand out as new elements that distinguish the government's programme from those of previous administrations.

PM's Secretary General Khosit, who was deputy agriculture minister in the Anan Cabinet, was reportedly the architect of the agricultural development strategy in the draft policy.

A source said the government intended to follow up on the initiatives taken by the Anan Cabinet in decentralizing budgetary powers to provinces and local areas. The Anan government introduced a special budget for direct use by provincial administrations to pave the way for further such decentralization.

The Cabinet yesterday also approved a request by House Speaker Dr Athit Urairat for a live broadcast of the House debate on the government policy statement, said Deputy Cabinet Secretary General Dr Witsanu Khruangam, who has been assigned the task of government spokesman.

He said the Cabinet decided Radio Thailand, as well as radio stations in its network, would broadcast the event live.

Channel 11, which is supervised by the Public Relations Department, will also broadcast the debate while other TV stations could choose whether to hook up with the broadcast, the spokesman said. Channel 11 has the lowest rating of all TV stations.

Witsanu said the Cabinet also agreed that permission for the live broadcast of House debates would be considered on a case-by-case basis. [passage omitted]

## Minister Stresses Freer Trade

*BK2904053392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 92 p B12*

[Text] Industry Minister Somphong Amonwiwat said yesterday that he will propose to the government to speed up the development of agro-industries, decentralize industrialization, and pursue a policy to open up trade and industry.

Following a Cabinet meeting, he said the ministry will also carry out import tax cuts on raw materials to be in line with the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) agreement signed early this year. He stressed, however, that implementation of AFTA must not cause excessive impact on domestic industries.

His statement suggests the minister's support for the AFTA programme launched by the previous government though modified by a cautiousness about its implementation. AFTA is intended to boost intra-regional trade and attract investment into the ASEAN region.

Somphong said that the last government had liberalized 24 industries, and that he would review policies on the remaining 12 sectors. He said the Cabinet yesterday discussed measures to ease the impact of drought on people in the provinces, held consultations on the policy statement to be delivered to Parliament next week, and considered the idea of live telecast of the first session of Parliament.

Policy directions to be annoucned in Parliament next week will be screened by a committee headed by Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan.

Meanwhile, Somphong said Deputy Minister Ruangwit Lik will take charge of the Industrial Standards Institute of Thailand and Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand, while Udomsak Thangthong is given the responsibility of overseeing the Industrial Promotion Department and Petroleum Authority of Thailand [PTT].

Somphong said PTT should be overseen by Udomsak because he belongs to the Chat Thai Party whose member, Kon Thappharangsi, is PM's [Prime Minister's] Office minister in charge of energy affairs.

Commenting on the proposed sale of Thai Oil Co's refinery, he said government decision on this issue must be fair to all parties concerned. He suggested that liberalization in the refinery sector should be enforced across the board. He implied that Shell and Esso were given the right to invest in new refineries with less restrictions whereas Thai Oil is still subject to tight regulations. Thai Oil is seeking to buy its refinery from the government to be able to list on the exchange.

## Suchinda on Vote Buying, Narong Appointment

*BK2704153392 Bangkok Army Teleision Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] Prime Minister General Suchinda Khraprayun said he still had not seen a report of the election monitoring body indicating that the two biggest parties in the government are top vote-buyers.

[Begin recording] [Suchinda, in progress] ...action will be taken against them in court if they are wrong. But if there is no evidence, nothing can be done.

[Unidentified correspondent] Will this mean that the two biggest parties, found top vote-buyers, will try their best to recoup the money they have invested? Will this affect the image of the government?

[Suchinda] Let me ask you—is vote buying wrong?

[Unidentified correspondent] It is wrong.

[Suchinda] In that case, vote-buyers will be punished. Can we punish them? Well, it depends whether the election watchdog will be able to have evidence to prove them wrong in court. That is the responsibility of the watchdog. [end recording]

Asked about the appointment of Deputy Prime Minister Narong Wongwan—who has reportedly been involved in narcotics trafficking—as chairman of the International Economic Relations Policy Committee, the prime minister explained that this is simply a responsibility entrusted to the political party. The prime minister did

not think the appointment would have any impact on trade between Thailand and the United States, which is a major trade partner of Thailand.

[Begin recording] [Suchinda, in progress] ...formally, the deputy prime minister of a party has the responsibility of overseeing the work in the ministries held by other members in his party.

[Unidentified correspondent] As he will oversee the Commerce Ministry, will there not be a problem, since Thai-U.S. trade is very important and the United States is a big market for Thailand?

[Suchinda] There is no problem. The United States has no reservations on this.

[Unidentified correspondent] Will they give him visas now that he is a government member?

[Suchinda] Well, I have not discussed this with them.

[Unidentified correspondent] As chairman of the committee, he may have to make a trip abroad for trade negotiations. Will not Mr. Narong have a problem in such a situation?

[Suchinda] No problem. If Mr. Narong cannot make the trip, other people can go instead of him. [end recording]

### Commerce Minister Considering Policy Changes

*BK2704014992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Apr 92 p 17*

[Text] Commerce Minister Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri claims former premeir Anan Panyarachun's economic policies over-emphasised industrialisation, especially the proposed ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA). "I am a politician, so I will give priority to helping the poor and farmers, instead of relying on private investors as did the past Government," he said.

Dr Anuwat, in the Commerce post for just a week, said in an interview that some economic policies which affect farmers may be reviewed because agriculture is still important.

He disagrees with the Anan Government's aim to reach consensus with other ASEAN countries on a free trade pact, claiming some aspects may adversely affect sectors such as the palm oil industry.

This industry has been lobbying the ministry to exclude vegetable oil from the list of 15 products earmarked for tariff cuts under the AFTA.

Some agricultural sectors will be hurt if there is no transitional period for adjustment, Mr Anuwat said, adding he will try to persuade other ASEAN members to give Thailand more time to reduce import tariffs on some products including those made from palm oil.

"Despite the ASEAN market, with more than 320 people, appearing to have big potential for Thailand the prospects may be overestimated because of the public's low purchasing power," he said.

Dr Anuwat believes that although the free trade policy will be the best tool to stimulate product efficiency, it will still be necessary for intervention in the market for some products, especially agricultural goods to help farmers.

He stressed his guideline for internal trade must benefit all concerned including farmers, traders and consumers.

His view on value-added tax (VAT) contradicts that of the previous Government in some respects, especially the 7 per cent rate and the tax amnesty.

Some traders may seek ministerial approval to raise prices very soon in the wake of temporary price controls, but any increases must not affect the poor, he said.

The 7 per cent VAT rate is too high and the Government should grant an unconditional amnesty for those who had not paid past taxes.

"It is not my responsibility but it will be better for everyone, especially consumers."

Dr Anuwat said he will try to boost exports to total 840,000 million baht this year, a rise of 28 per cent on last year's figure. The framework of the Seventh National Economic Plan will be the guideline for the ministry.

Turning to international trade disputes involving major powers, especially the United States, Dr Anuwat said he will proceed with the Anan Government's policy and is confident matters will not become serious.

Although the US, which complains about Thailand's lack of patent protection, has not removed the country from its priority list for possible retaliatory trade action, there is still room for further negotiations, he said.

Dr Anuwat said he will try to prevent allegations of corruption against himself and his colleagues by trying to make decisions openly.

He said he is confident he can cooperate with Commerce Ministry staff who have often had conflicts with politicians taking the helm at the ministry.

"I know all high-level Commerce officials well, so I hope they will cooperate with me to do the best job," he said.

"I decided to take the job because it is a personal challenge and I will try my best," he said.

### Journalists Urge Commitment To Press Freedom

*BK2504053092 Bangkok THE NATION in English 25 Apr 92 p A4*

[Text] The Reporters Association of Thailand yesterday urged Prime Minister Suchinda Khraprayun to commit himself to safeguarding press freedom when he delivers his government policy statement to the House next Wednesday and also guarantee the safety of professional journalists.

Association Chairman Banyat Tasaniyawet yesterday submitted a letter addressed to the premier to an official of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Prime Minister, saying press freedom, particularly that of the broadcast media, had been severely restricted since his government assumed power.

"Freedom of the media has never been threatened to the present extent," Banyat said. "Reporters have come under harassment by thugs and illtreated by the prime minister's bodyguards," she said.

She said reporters were even manhandled and hurt by bodyguards while they were interviewing the prime minister at Government House.

In the most recent incident, Suthichai Yun, publisher of THE NATION, a radio and television news commmentator and vocal critic of the government, was harassed by hooligans who damaged his property inside his home, Banyat said.

"All these forebode a possible return to the vicious and anti-democratic political system," the chairman said.

Banyat said she did not believe the prime minister had anything to do with the harassments, but that she suspected some of his excessively loyal and sycophantic subordinates in the armed forces were responsible for the ugly incidents against journalists.

Meanwhile, Dr Wiraphong Ramangkun, chief economic adviser of Prime Minister Suchinda Khraprayun, yesterday morning visited Suthichai to convey the premier's concern and sympathy for the attack on the journalist's cars at his residence which appeared to be a politically motivated act of intimidation against critics of the new government.

Wiraphong said the government was in no way related to the incident.

Quoting the prime minister, the chairman of the newly-formed economic advisory board, said whoever was behind the incident obviously harboured ill intentions towards the country.

The prime minister, Wiraphong said, urged Suthichai to continue to play an active role as an independent and professional journalist.

"Every country needs somebody like Khun Suthichai, who can be critical and outspoken in commenting on state affairs," the prime minister was quoted as saying.

Wiraphong said he was sorry for the incident and affirmed that the government had no policy of curbing press freedom.

However, a senior army official yesterday appeared disturbed by the suspicions that politics was behind the attack on the property of Suthichai early on Thursday morning.

Assistant army chief Maj Gen Phaibun Hongsinlak, commenting on the attack on Suthichai's cars in his garage, said: "I have no idea who did it. But don't jump to the conclusion that it was politically motivated.

"Suthichai has commented a great deal on politics and might have caused resentment as a result. But it may not be the case. He has the right to theorize that the assault was politically motivated. But any hasty conclusion on the issue could cause confusion," he said.

Asked about suspicions that the military was behind the incident, Maj Gen Phaibun said people had the right to think so, adding "the brain is theirs."

He said the theory could be unfair to the military.

The matter should be investigated by police, Phaibun suggested. Soldiers are human beings who also have the right to feel hurt and voice their feelings, he added.

Maj Gen Phaibun agreed with the idea that a third party might have engineered the attack to create an impression that critics of the Suchinda government were being intimidated. Political opportunists abound in this country, he said.

### Daily Warns Against Economy Without Democracy

*BK2404024792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Apr 92 p A8*

[Editorial: "Authoritarian Rule Will Bring Only Hardship"]

[Text] The buzz words for Premier Gen Suchinda Khrapr-ayun and his military backers are "political stability" and "economic prosperity." Their underlying assumption is that only Suchinda can create political stability, which in turn will make further economic growth possible.

Suchinda never talks about promoting parliamentary democracy. He isn't interested in running for a seat in the House of Representatives at all. But he stresses the fact that he "plays by the rules" and he became premier constitutionally because of the endorsement of the majority coalition in the elected House.

But co-opting three "unusually wealthy" politicians into his Cabinet looked like foul play to many people. Yet Suchinda passed the blame onto voters who chose to re-elect these three in the March 22 general election. At other times he even defended the "unusually wealthy" politicians, saying they were "not guilty yet" as they are appealing the confiscation of their assets in court.

The Thai democratic political game is obviously full of loopholes. And a shrewd player like Suchinda knows how to exploit them to his own political advantage. He thus sees no need to put an end to them, such as by amending the undemocratic Constitution of 1991 written under pressure from Suchinda's National Peace-keeping Council (NPKC).

Some of Suchinda's men would privately contend that Thailand needs political stability first and democracy later; political stability is conducive to economic prosperity,

whereas democracy isn't—at least not now or in the next few years because of the loopholes, the mass ignorance, and the corrupt, wealthy politicians. One of their favourite examples is South Korea, which managed to develop into a newly-industrialized country (NIC) while the country was under authoritarian rule by the Democratic Liberal Party, which had strong ties to the military.

What they conveniently overlook when citing South Korea is that Seoul's industrialization extracted a heavy toll on its people in terms of human rights violations, political persecution of dissidents, and bloody oppression against protesters. President Gen Pak Chong-hui himself was assassinated in 1979. His successor Gen Chon Tu-hwan had to step down in disgrace. And President Gen No Tae-u had to embark on democratic reforms as soon as he was elected president in order to heal the massive wounds inflicted during the authoritarian rule of his predecessors.

More importantly, President No has to try to block out military intervention in national politics and speed up his democratization programme to placate the electorate. In spite of these attempts and recent successes in his foreign policy, President No saw his party slip badly in the parliamentary election last month in which it fell one seat short of a majority. The DLP had 215 seats in the 299-member National Assembly before the election.

What we can infer from the South Korean experience is this: Authoritarian rule can speed up economic growth (under the right conditions and policies, such as a hard-working populace and savings mobilization, etc.) but the political cost is tremendous. When the nation is wealthier people will start to turn against against their government with a vengeance, because authoritarianism is seen more and more as a hindrance rather than a stimulant to economic expansion and development. The public revulsion is stronger when courruption is rampant in the ruling party and the military backing it.

Authoritarian rule in South Korea in the 1970s and 1980s was justified, with blessings from the US and the West, as necessary to ward off communism. There is no such justification in Thailand today—authoritarianism is simply anti-democracy and anti-the people. Undemocratic governments do not go unopposed.

If critics and protesters are harassed or suppressed, as in the case of South Korea one or two decades ago, political instability will absolutely follow. Foreign investment and tourists—the two major sources of Thailand's economic growth—would go somewhere else. The raison d'etre of authoritarian rule—economic prosperity—would disappear.

A large number of those attending the protest rally on Monday night were middle-class people fed up with the military's intervention in national politics and corruption in government. The growing popularity of the centrist Phalang Tham Party in Bangkok, in sharp contrast to the weakness of the right-wing Prachakon Thai Party, could also be seen as a sign of middle-class disillusion with the seriously flawed political system.

The Suchinda administration cannot live on borrowed time under polities as usual by merely paying lip service to the poor. Tackling the chronic poverty problem, for example, will take years of concentrated effort, not just a few days of visiting drought-stricken provinces in the Northeast.

However, amending the Constitution to make it more democratic and purging corrupt politicians and military officers to placate the middle class will take much less time to show some result.

Unfortunately Suchinda doesn't seem to have any political will to initiate a democratization programme. Worse, he and his military backers are apparently inclined toward introducing some form of authoritarian rule in the vain hope that it will create political stability and bring about economic prosperity.

Before he gets carried too far away from reality, Suchinda must carefully study the experience of South Korea and countries like it and see the enormous political and human costs incurred in ending military-led authoritarian rule.

The NPKC's coup on Feb 23, 1991 and Suchirda's questionable rise to the premiership have taught the Thai middle-class a very hard lesson. They will not be fooled again.

## Investment Situation Likely To Recover Soon

*BK2504170092 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 24 Apr 92*

[Text] Thailand's investment situation is expected to be back to normal within one month, central bank spokesman Phisit Li-atham said yesterday. Mr. Phisit said both domestic and foreign investment in Thailand had been on the decline for some time, with investors adopting a wait-and-see attitude.

The reappointment of Suthi Singsane as finance minister had helped improve investors' confidence in the continuity of taxation and budgetary policies. Foreign investors, particularly the Japanese, were expected to continue investing in Thailand.

At the same time, the Thai economy was expected to grow eight percent this year as a result of the country's strong export performance. In addition, there has been an improvement in major economic indicators like inflation and the current account deficit since the beginning of this year.

## Vietnam

### Italy To Provide 85 Million U.S. Dollars in Aid

*BK2504092392 Hanoi VNA in English 0709 GMT 25 Apr 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 25—The Italian Government has decided to provide aid worth 108 billion lire (about 85 million dollars) to Vietnam in 1992-1994, for socio-economic projects, including a grant of 22 billion lire and a soft loan of 86 billion lire.

Agreement on this was reached during a meeting in Rome between a Vietnamese Government delegation led by Mr Mai Ky, vice chairman of the State Planning Commission, and an Italian Government delegation led by Claudio Lenocci, deputy foreign minister.

The two delegations reviewed the cooperation between the two countries and expressed their satisfaction at the initial results of the cooperation.

They also discussed measures to further step up the friendly and cooperative relations in many fields between the two countries.

In addition, the Italian Government will give 1.5 billion lire (USD 1.2 million) for the training of management personnel and 1.9 billion lire (USD 1.4 million) for the training of students and post-graduates.

Emergency aid, worth 950 million lire, will be added with 10 excavators and four cranes.

### Envoy Celebrates 60th Anniversary of DPRK Army

*BK2504091992 Hanoi VNA in English 0654 GMT 25 Apr 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 25—Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Yi Hong gave a reception here yesterday on the 60th Korean People's Army Day (April 25).

Among those present at the reception was General Doan Khue, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam and minister of national defence.

Ambassador Yi Hong and General Doan Khue proposed toasts to the further development of the friendship and cooperation between the parties, government, armies, and peoples of Vietnam and the DPRK, for the interests of each country, and for peace, stability, and cooperation in the region and the world as a whole.

### Scientific Cooperation Brings 'Good Results'

*BK2504082292 Hanoi VNA in English 0706 GMT 25 Apr 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 25—About 100 Vietnamese and French scientists and experts have just met in an international symposium on corrosion and protection of materials, the first ever held in Vietnam.

The participants, who came from different institutes, universities and industrial companies, traded tips from Wednesday to Friday under the auspices of the Institute for Tropical Technology of the National Centre for Scientific Research of Vietnam [NCSR-V], the National Centre for Scientific Research of France [NCSR-F], and the National Superior School of Chemistry in Toulouse.

NCSR-V and NCSR-F have worked together since 1988 in the field of corrosion and protection of materials and have obtained many novel results in fundamental and applied research.

Their cooperation has contributed to the solution of several problems of degradation of metallic materials and equipment in tropical conditions.

Results of their joint research are also profitable to other countries faced with grave problems of corrosion in tropical climate.

### Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew Ends Visit 27 Apr

*BK2704151792 Hanoi VNA in English 1431 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 27—Lee Kuan Yew, former prime minister and a present senior minister of Singapore, left Ho Chi Minh City today, concluding a five-day visit to Vietnam.

During their stay in Vietnam, His Excellency Lee Kuan Yew and his party were received by Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) General Secretary Do Muoi, paid courtesy visits to Pham Van Dong and Nguyen Van Linh, advisors to the CPV Central Committee, and had an extensive exchange of views with Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet.

### Commentary Welcomes Visit by Lee Kuan Yew

*BK2904054692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 28 Apr 92*

["Radio Opinion"]

[Text] Right after Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed's departure from Hanoi, Singapore's former prime minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, arrived in Hanoi for the international conference on Vietnam. Mr Lee's presence in Hanoi shows the change in attitude of people in the world toward Hanoi. It also demonstrated that the relations between Vietnam and other ASEAN countries have been developing positively.

During his stay in Hanoi, Mr Lee Kuan Yew told Vietnamese leaders that his country is ready to share knowledge and economic experience with Vietnam. Speaking to a REUTER correspondent in Ho Chi Minh City, Mr Lee Kuan Yew said that he was inmpressed by the vitality of Vietnam and had no doubt that it could prosper like Singapore and other countries in the region. He said he believed Vietnam would become an Asian Tiger though it continues its socialist path. He also made

known that Singapore no longer considers Vietnam a military threat in the region.

During his visit to Vietnam, Mr Lee Kuan Yew proposed orientations for development of bilateral cooperation and made suggestions for Vietnam's economic development strategy. The Vietnamese leaders highly appreciated his positive assessment and his proposals. As Premier Vo Van Kiet put it: this Vietnam visit by Mr Lee Kuan Yew will contribute to enhancing mutual understanding and promoting the relations of cooperation between Vietnam and Singapore.

## Radio Views Cooperation With Netherlands

*BK2904054292 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] The Dutch foreign trade minister, Ms Yvonne Van Rooy, says the Netherlands is very interested and ready to cooperate with and assist Vietnam with its experience for economic development. She made the commitment to Premier Vo Van Kiet during her visit to Vietnam last week.

Last weekend Ms Yvonne Van Rooy, the first high official of the Netherlands to visit Vietnam, reached an agreement with Vietnamese leaders in expanding cooperation between the two countries in the fields of communications, transport, irrigation and commerce as well as in continuing to negotiate the signing of agreements on investment protection and avoidance of double taxation.

During his reception for the Dutch minister, Premier Vo Van Kiet highly appreciated the cooperation between the two countries and said it could be further developed because both sides have the requirement and the potentiality to do so and enjoy each other's sympathy and trust.

At a press conference in Hanoi the Dutch foreign trade minister said she has seen many opportunities to do business in Vietnam:

[Begin Van Rooy recording] It is the first time a government minister is visiting Vietnam, so also for that reason this visit is a special occasion and something we consider as a new page in the good and (?substantive) relations between Vietnam and the Netherlands. The purpose of the visit is actually threefold: first of all to strengthen the rather good relations between our two countries and to strengthen these ties in the economic sector, and secondly we want to (?contribute) several [word indistinct] about the reform policy in Vietnam as we have seen introduced in the past two years and has been implemented. And the third reason was to identify concrete opportunities for expanding the trade, as well exports as imports, and to identify opportunities for economic cooperation and for investment. [end recording]

She ended by saying that her delegation is also accompanied by 40 business people, the biggest one accompanying her on her overseas journey since she became minister in 1986. This, she said, shows Dutch private companies' great interest in doing business with Vietnam. She said she was impressed by her contacts with Vietnamese leaders. She pointed out that once the three agreements to be reached with Vietnam, namely on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation; on investment protection; and on avoidance of double taxation, come into effect there will be good foundations for economic development as well as multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries.

She also told our correspondent that she is very impressed by her visit to Vietnam:

[Begin Van Rooy recording] As a last observation, I would like to say that I was very impressed by the reform policies as they have been implemented in Vietnam, the good prospects for economic growth and further economic development by the business-like approach of the ministers I have met. We have had very straightforward discussions and altogether I have drawn the conclusion that there are excellent opportunities for good business cooperation between our two countries and we are pleased that the Dutch business sector can contribute to the further growth and development of Vietnam. [end recording]

## Singapore, Malaysia Seen As Largest Investors

*BK2304113992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Apr 92 p A8*

[Article by Kawi Chongkitthawon: "Rapid Malaysian Business Expansion in VN (Vietnam)"]

[Excerpts] Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad visits Vietnam this week, with the clearly stated intention that he means business. He wants to see his country play a prominent economic role in the largest Indochinese market.

During his six-day visit, which was described by a Vietnamese official as a "big gun" visit, Mahathir brought with him a 108-member top businessman delegation, the largest trade delegation ever to visit Vietnam, not to mention 20 more officials and a separate cultural troupe to give performances during the trip.

He has every reason to impress Vietnam, the country to which his government has given a very high priority—as part of Malaysia's longterm strategy to move into Indochina as well as other developing countries throughout the world.

Several months ago, Malaysia did not have any investment in Vietnam. After Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet visited Kuala Lumpur in January, Malaysian investment in Vietnam began to grow and since then it seems that nothing could stop the money flowing into the country.

Up till now, Malaysian companies have already put US$2.92 billion in investment in Vietnam, making Malaysia the single largest ASEAN investor. Local

papers frequently report visits of senior Malaysian officials and prominent businessman talking about their new projects and investment plans in Vietnam.

Trade between Vietnam and Malaysia has soared from a mere US$20 million in 1985 to US$100 million last year. Vietnamese officials are confident that the trade figures with Malaysia will further double within the next few years. Investment is expected to reach at least US$250 million by the end of this year, according to Malaysian businessmen accompanying the premier. [passage omitted]

Once the Cambodian peace accord was signed in Paris, ASEAN countries have rushed into Vietnam. Singapore, one of the staunchest of anti-Vietnam nations in the 13 year Cambodian conflict, is now Vietnam's largest trading partner topping US$600 million last year.

After Kiet's visit to Singapore last November, Singapore-Vietnamese diplomatic ties were normalized. Within the span of a few months the island republic has gained footholds in Vietnam to the envy of other ASEAN and Western competitors.

Singapore's experience in business and macro-economic management will be shared with Vietnamese leaders when senior minister Lee Kuan Yew, former prime minister of Singapore, attends a seminar here on Wednesday and Thursday. Lee will give economic advice to Vietnam during his visit.

Other ASEAN countries such as, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines have shown tardiness in coming to invest in Vietnam although Thailand was the first country to call for the policy of turning the Indochinese battle-field into a marketplace, but Thailand has an insignificant role in Vietnam's expansion of foreign trade and investment.

Efforts by the Thai government to increase economic and trade cooperation with Vietnam continues to be hampered by lingering mutual suspicions. The recent squabbling over cooperation in the Mekong River committee was a case in point. Even with the successful visit of Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun to Vietnam in January, investment from Thailand has not increased significantly.

About 300 Thai trade delegations visited Vietnam last year. Most of them returned empty handed. Last year Thailand's investment in Vietnam was about US$38 million covering 18 projects, a figure that was at least 14 years in the making. Thai businessmen still prefer to smuggle precious stones out of Vietnam and Thai frozen food and canned food companies continue to fish illegally in Vietnam's waters.

Only a few major Thai companies are planning to do serious business in Vietnam. The CP [Charoen Phokhaphan] Group has sent a big delegation here to discuss future investment. It has lined up projects for cooperation with Vietnam in maize and soybean cultivation, in shrimp and poultry farming and in the production of frozen food and animal feed.

Apart from the private sector, Thailand's offer of Bt150 million [baht] in longterm credit to Vietnam to purchase Thai goods and services, announced in January, remains unused by Vietnam. It is likely to remain that way for a long time.

Moreover, there has not been any progress in the conclusion of a fishing cooperation agreement between the two countries, considered as the key bilateral agreement. The failure to sign the agreement—even though both sides initialled the preliminary agreement during Anan's trip—has deepended Thai suspicion over Vietnam's intention.

Last year, Thailand expressed keen interest in investing in natural gas exploration in Vietnam. Extensive discussions followed in Hanoi by a Thai energy delegation in January. Subsequently, Thailand lost the bid to invest in the natural gas project to Canada.

Besides a joint venture in banking, known as Indovina Bank, and a coal mining deal, Indonesian investment in Vietnam was about US$40 million. As for the Philippines, it has yet to catch up in any significant way with the rest of ASEAN. Brunei, which established diplomatic ties with Vietnam recently, so far has no business interest here.

In sum, given its strong support from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian companies will continue to pour money into Vietnam leading the rest of ASEAN countries in the near future.

But in the long haul, Singapore's discreet and less publicized ways of doing business and investing money will probably see its investment coming on top. Singapore will likely maintain its status as the leading trading partner of Vietnam as it is the major outlet for Vietnam commodities in the world market right now.

## Kiet Receives Australian Government Delegation

*BK2704160792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 16 Apr 92*

[Text] The economic delegation of the Australian Government led by Senator John Button, minister of industry, technology, and commerce and Treasurer John Dawkins, has visited Vietnam. Le Van Triet, minister of commerce and tourism and Minister of Finance Hoang Quy received and held working sessions with the delegation.

On the morning of 13 April, the delegation paid a courtesy visit to Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers. At the reception, Mr. John Button officially noted that Australia had decided to grant $100 million in aid to Vietnam for the 1992-1995 period in order to contribute to the development of bilateral relations. Chairman Vo Van Kiet highly valued the traditional relations of friendship between the two countries and gave thanks for the assistance of the Australian Government and people.

The delegation also paid a courtesy visit to Minister of Foreign Relations Nguyen Manh Cam and held working sessions with Do Quoc Sam, chairman of the State Planning Commission; Dau Ngoc Xuan, chairman of the State Commission for Cooperation and Investment; Tran Lum, minister of heavy industry; and other ministries and sectors. The Australian and Vietnamese officials exchanged views and agreed on many measures to broaden Vietnamese-Australian economic and trade relations.

On 13 April afternoon, Comrade Hoang Quy, on behalf of the Vietnamese Government, and Mr. John Dawkins, on behalf of the Australian Government, signed an agreement on avoiding double taxation between the two countries.

## Commentary Views Relations With Japan

*BK2704072892 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly Le Quang Dao started his official visit to Japan on 19 April and he will be there until 25 April. This is the first official visit to Japan by the head of the Vietnamese National Assembly. With this event, relations between the two national assemblies have been opened up. The visit will also create favorable conditions for promoting friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

At present many Japanese Government and Diet leaders are concerned about friendly ties with Vietnam. Particularly, in recent days they have expressed their desire to Mr. Le Quang Dao. Japanese Prime Minister Miyazawa told Mr. Le Quang Dao during the reception that Japan and Vietnam should deepen their friendship. He also acknowledged the achievements in the renovation process in Vietnam. He said there is great potential which Japan and Vietnam had to develop in their relations. He stressed that Japan is ready to give financial aid to Vietnam.

The fact is that trade relations between Vietnam and Japan have been increasing. Japan has become one of Vietnam's major trade partners. Bilateral trade turnover last year rose to $900 million. It is hoped that this Japan visit by Mr. Le Quang Dao will contribute to further develop the potentials of the two countries. It will benefit both Japan and Vietnam and it will also contribute to the developments in the Asia-Pacific region.

## Paper Cites Minister on Mekong Committee Wrangle

*BK2704011692 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Apr 92 p A2*

[From Kawi Chongkitthawon in Hanoi]

[Text] Vietnam has expressed the hope that Thailand will adopt a policy of using the Mekong without jeopardizing the interests of other countries which share the waterway.

In an interview with THE NATION, Water Resources Minister Nguyen Canh Dinh said he hopes "Thailand will have a proper policy that does not only ensure her socio-economic development but also the legitimate interests of other riparian countries."

The 5,000-km-long Mekong River, the world's eighth longest, snakes through China, Burma, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Dinh said all countries using the Mekong River should take care to safeguard water quantity and quality, especially in the dry season, and to prevent pollution of the water.

Thailand uses the Mekong River to irrigate its arid land in the Northeast region. Other users of the Mekong River have expressed fear that without adequate protection, the river will be mismanaged and this could cause pollution.

Dinh said all Mekong-related projects must consider the common interests of all riparian countries "on the basis of mutual accommodation for each country's needs."

He said Vietnam would welcome the participation of China and Burma in the Mekong Committee. Thailand has called for the expansion of the Mekong Committee to include China and Burma.

Thailand and Vietnam have been locked in a squabble over the issue of Cambodia's return to the Mekong Committee. Thailand does not want Cambodia's readmission to revoke the old procedures and regulations. Vietnam said that with Cambodia on the committee, the regulations of the full Mekong Committee should be used. Laos, Thailand and Vietnam set up the Interim Mekong Committee in 1978.

Recently, there have been positive developments on the issue during the visit of Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Le Mai to Bangkok. Le Mai held discussions with Deputy Foreign Minsiter Sombat Sisurin and agreed that further dialogue is needed to address further problems regarding the Mekong Committee.

Last month, Thailand organized an informal meeting, which Vietnam did not attend, to discuss the Mekong committee. The meeting agreed to set up a working group to seek a compromise. Vietnam has also expressed its readiness to attend the next committee meeting, which is scheduled to be called by Thailand in the near future.

Thailand plans to call soon a meeting of the working group which comprises Laos, Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia.

Vietnam uses the Mekong to irrigate almost one million hectares in the Cuu Long delta—its key agricultural region which accounts for almost 75 percent of paddy production.

## Foreign Companies Joia in Quang Trung Fair

*BK2704150992 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 27—One hundred and twenty-three foreign companies are participating in quang trung international fair currenty held in Ho Chi Minh City.

These foreign companies are from South Korea, Thailand, Singapore, Taiwan, Macao, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Italy, Germany, and France. In particular, large groups such as You Hsien International Exhibition Co. Ltd. (Taiwan), Kotra (South Korea) and the Department of Exports (Thailand) have brought from 12 to 14 companies to the fair. It is the first time some import- export companies in Yunnan and other provinces in China take part in the fair.

Vietnamese exhibitors include 170 companies and establishments from 12 provinces and cities and six sector ministries.

On display are machinery and equipment in the industrial, agricultural, forestry, communications and transport, building and electronic sectors. Also displayed are garments, fabric, pharmaceuticals, chemical products, and arts and crafts.

The fair will last till May 4.

## Nguyen Van Linh Attends HCM City Get-Together

*BK2904092092 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] According to a Ho Chi Minh City-based Voice of Vietnam correspondent, on the morning of 26 April, some 500 veteran revolutionaries and other brothers and sisters who had worked with the various agencies directly subordinate to the former Central Office of South Vietnam [COSVN] participated in a get-together to mark the great 30 April Victory.

Attending the function were Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, advisor to the party Central Committee; the comrade members of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee standing body; and a number of comrade delegates from the various provinces.

After recalling the formation of the COSVN, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh reminded everyone of the need to constantly uphold the spirit of mutual love and assistance and to work together in preserving the fine results of days gone by and in making their offsprings aware of the need to follow the path chartered by their fathers and forefathers and most importantly, to constantly heighten vigilance against the enemy's peaceful evolution strategy at present.

## Council of Ministers Discusses Economic Issues

*BK2704061792 Hanoi VNA in English 0550 GMT 27 Apr 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 27—The Council of Ministers has held a regular session in April to discuss the foreign economic plan and some legislative bills. The Council of Ministers focussed on what direct influence the background and trend of economic development in the world and the region have on the Vietnamese economy, Vietnam's capability of seizing new opportunities to overcome great challenges at present, and guidelines for foreign economic cooperation and development, especially the drawing of foreign capital and technology into important areas of investment, and solutions to organizational and management questions.

The Council of Ministers also debated a draft law on environment, a draft ordinance on veterinary medicine, and a draft ordinance on botanical protection and epidemic check.

## Hanoi on Security, Other Tasks for 1992-95

*BK2704052592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 15 Apr 92*

[Text] The Hanoi municipal party committee met from 13 to 15 April to discuss the tasks of maintaining political security and social order and safety and programs for economic and rural development in the 1992-95 period.

In the days ahead, Hanoi will continue to determine guidelines for political security and social order and safety in the capital. This is an important task that must be undertaken under a specific program in the immediate future as well as in the long term.

Under the close guidance of party committees at various levels, plans have been formulated by all sectors and echelons to intensify preventive measures, from ideological work to managerial, administrative, and legal measures. First of all, Hanoi pays attention to purifying its internal ranks in close combination with the development of its agricultural economy and stabilization of its people's livelihood.

Regarding the programs for economic and rural development in the 1992-95 period, Hanoi has reassessed the real state of agriculture and rural life in suburban areas at present in order to more accurately determine guidelines, targets, and measures for these programs in the days ahead.

The target set for agricultural development by Hanoi involves efforts to increase the 1995 value of gross production by 42 percent over 1990 and achieve an average annual per-capita grain distribution of 350 kilograms.

As far as the target for rural development is concerned, Hanoi strives to see to it that by 1995 some 30 percent of villages will attain the standards of new countryside and

fulfill or overfulfill all the requirements in terms of housing and means of living.

The municipality needs at least 400 billion dong for its family and population planning work.

## Consular Bureau To Assist Citizens, Foreigners

*BK2504175392 Hanoi VNA in English 1621 GMT 25 Apr 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 25—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs today inaugurated a consular bureau in Da Nang, capital of the central Vietnam Province of Quang Nam-Da Nang.

The consular bureau is to handle consular affairs in central Vietnam and the central highlands, helping Vietnamese citizens, foreign economic organizations and foreigners working there to go through the procedures of applying for exit and entry visas.

## Government Issuing Gold-Backed Bonds

*BK2904054892 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 28 Apr 92*

[Text] Since mid-April the Investment and Development Bank of Vietnam has issued new bonds guaranteed by gold. This is a new form to mobilize idle capital among the people in service of the country's economic development.

In recent years Vietnam has applied several measures to (?pull) capital from the people such as opening savings accounts, issuing government bonds, and now, gold-guaranteed bonds. On 14 April the Vietnamese Investment and Development Bank opened four stalls selling these bonds in Hanoi. On the first day hundreds of people came to buy bonds in gold, in Vietnamese Dong, and U.S. dollars. The lowest bond was equivalent to some million dong, the highest is worth 50 million dong, nine taels of gold and $4,000.

Interest rates for bonds of from 20-30 million dong are 4.2 and 4.6 percent respectively, after a period of three to five years, and for a one year period it will be four percent.

On 24 April this kind of bond was also issued in Thanh Hoa Province in central Vietnam and other provinces and cities.

Most of the bondholders said that the interest rate of this bond is realistic for both the holders and the bank.

This way of capital mobilization has been warmly responded to. What they like most in it is that they can sell, inherit, and use the bond as collateral when asking for loans.

To raise money for the construction of a 500 Kv powerline the Government of Vietnam has allowed the treasury to issue gold-guaranteed bonds. The bonds are sold on compulsory and voluntary basis to state enterprises, non-government businesses including commercial banks, investment and development banks, savings banks, and insurance and stock companies. This is a timely measure and initiative which will bring about practical results for the national economy's development.

## Feature Rejects Need for Political Reform

*BK2704080892 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 24 Apr 92*

["Talk of the Week" feature "On The Current Reforms in Vietnam"]

[Text] Having followed the 11th session of the Eighth National Assembly, the public has shared the opinion that Vietnam really has been following a comprehensive renovation policy with economic reforms first, followed by political system reforms with a view to gradually lifting the country out of its current crisis.

Meanwhile, perhaps due to misunderstanding or lack of goodwill, some people have been saying that Vietnam's reforms will go nowhere because the country has not renovated its political system or because it does so very slowly. In fact these people would like Vietnam to change its political system completely like in the former Soviet Union and Eastern European countries. They ignore the fruits of national independence, freedom and the people's mastery for which the Vietnamese people fought for generations to win and defended with their own blood for nearly five decades. Reversing its political system will never be accepted by the Vietnamese people.

It is not correct to say that while Vietnam has adopted very swift economic reform it has carried out the political reform too slowly. In fact, politics and economics are bound together in the development of the reform process. There cannot be an open-door policy on foreign investment to boost the national economy without a change in the way of political thinking.

After only three years of implementing the law on foreign investment in Vietnam, the country has been able to draw $2.9 billion capital. This (?smallish) figure naturally has economic significance but it also has great political significance. It shows that more and more countries the world over believe in the political stability of Vietnam and Vietnam's inevitable political renovation for further successes of the comprehensive reform.

What happened in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe taught Vietnam a good lesson in its renovation of its political system. It is necessary to take steady steps without haste and to avoid political chaos and collapse. Amending the constitution, streamlining the state apparatus and changes in the party's leadership of the state are all manifestations of political reform. This reform is taking place every day, every hour in the social life in Vietnam.

## Australia

### PRC Protest of Dalai Lama Meeting Rejected

*BK2904101492 Hong Kong AFP in English 1002 GMT 29 Apr 92*

[Text] Canberra, April 29 (AFP)—Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Wednesday he would hold a meeting next week with Tibet's exiled leader the Dalai Lama, despite a warning from China that it would damage bilateral relations.

Questioned in Parliament about an official Chinese protest, Evans said the planned meeting did not imply that Australia challenged Beijing's claims to sovereignty over Tibet, which China occupied in 1949.

Evans said he intended to meet the Dalai Lama "in his capacity as a religious figure and as a Nobel Laureate."

The Dalai Lama arrived in Perth, Western Australia on Tuesday for two weeks of public speaking engagements. He is due to visit all six states as well as the federal capital, Canberra, where he will address the National Press Club on May 7.

Evans did not say when he would meet the Dalai Lama, but made it clear that he rejected Chinese demands that he cancel the appointment.

In a note on April 7, the Chinese Embassy here had described the Dalai Lama as "not just a religious figure but a person in exile engaged in political activities aimed at splitting China," Evans said.

The Foreign Ministry had replied that Australia accepted China's sovereignty over Tibet."

But, "we continue to have serious concerns about the repression of religious freedom, cultural identity and freedom of expression in Tibet."

The MELBOURNE AGE on Wednesday reported that the Chinese note contained a warning that any meeting between the Dalai Lama and Australian officials "will surely bring damage to the relations between our two countries."

Asked whether Prime Minister Paul Keating would also meet the Dalai Lama, Evans replied: "No final decision has been taken on that."

The Dalai Lama said Wednesday he had proposed a meeting with Keating but would not press for one in the light of the protest by China.

"I always keep it in my mind to avoid creating embarrassment unnecessarily," he told a press conference in Perth.

"Sometimes, though, it is necessary to embarrass. But if it is inconvenient for the prime minister to meet, I understand that."

Although he emphasised the point of his tour was to promote spiritual and temporal ideals, the Dalai Lama spent much of the following hour speaking of Chinese atrocities in his homeland.

He accused China of killing 1.2 million Tibetans, of destroying more than 6,000 Buddhist temples and monasteries and subjecting Tibetan women to forced abortions and sterilisation.

For the past 33 years, the Dalai Lama has lived in India and since 1960 in the remote northern town of Dharamsala where he has established a Tibetan government-in-exile.

"When I return to Tibet with freedom I will set up an interim government and hand over power to that government," he said.

"Then I will become a truly simple Buddhist monk."